

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND

China Overland Trade Report.

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BIRTHS.

On the 5th August, at Johannesburg, the wife of H. WARRINGTON SMITH, of a son.
On the 25th August, at Tapah, Batang Padang, Perak, the wife of JNO. FRED GIFFENING, Inspector of Roads, P.W.D., of a daughter.
On the 1st September, at Butterworth, Province Wellesley, Straits, the wife of OWEN H. WAIT, of the Public Works Department, of a daughter.
On the 1st September, at Bush Lane, Bangkok, the wife of W. EVERS, of a son.
On the 2nd September, at Klang, Straits, the wife of WILLIAM ROUSE, F. M. S. Railways, of a son.
On the 4th September, at Pulo Bukom, Straits, the wife of J. BERRY, of a daughter.
On the 8th September, at Singapore, the wife of A. G. HILLS, of a daughter.
On the 13th September, at 9, Woosung Road, Shanghai, the wife of F. H. NEALE, of the China Inland Mission, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

On the 7th August, at Muswell-hill, W. WILL, to HETTIE, daughter of the late C. ALLINSON, of Singapore.
On the 11th August, at the Roman Catholic Church of St. Mary the Virgin, Sandakan, British North Borneo, by the Rev. Father DeVette Ann, JOSEPHINE YMBAN, to HENRY ALEX. GUNN, C.C., P.W.D., Jesselton.
On the 20th August, at Leeuwarden, Holland, the marriage took place by proxy of JAN JOACHIM BRUNGER of Tientsin and MARIE LOUISE PLANTENGA of Leeuwarden.
On the 9th September, at Shanghai, at the German Consulate-General by Vice-Consul Müller, and afterwards at the German Church by Pastor Boie, ELLIE, second daughter of Mrs. GEORGE CLARKE, to KARL F. MELCHERS of Tientsin.

DEATHS.

On the 4th August, at Brighton, J. EZEKIEL, of Hongkong, aged 43 years.
On the 1st September, at Penang, G. B. ZOLPHE.
On the 9th September, at Singapore, EPIPHANIO LAWRENCE MANUEL DE SOUZA, aged 58 years.
On the 13th September, at the Government Civil Hospital, JACK, the dearly beloved son of Inspector and Mrs. C. W. BRETT. At rest.

Hongkong Weekly Press

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ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The German mail of the 18th ult. arrived, per N.D.L. steamer *Seydlitz*, on the 16th inst. (29 days); and the American mail arrived, per steamer *Coptic*, on the 18th inst.

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

At a fire at Hangohow recently no less than 600 houses were destroyed. Six people were killed and many injured.

According to a Tientsin paper, H.E. Viceroy Shum is trying to get recalled. Is this also an invention of his enemies?

We learn that orders have been issued that the awnings on all British warships are to be of the same colour as the ships.

Formosa has suffered so much from storms this year that the output of camphor is expected to show a considerable falling off.

Yang Chu, the new Chinese Minister to Japan, is a Cantonese. Before he proceeds to Japan from Peking he is coming south to this week fetch his family.

L'Echo de Chine says that the students of the Peking University are deserting for fear of being classed as reformers. This is one of the results of the Empress Dowager's ideas of good government.

The Manila papers publish a telegram stating that the French Government decided on the 9th inst. to forward more troops to China to protect the interests of citizens of France. This hardly seems probable.

It was reported recently in Shanghai that the Japanese Consul-General had asked the Taotai for a piece of ground for a Japanese Settlement at Footung; but the desired land is now said to be in the Yangtzepoo region.

The *Shanghai Mercury* reports that a letter dated September 2nd states that plague broke out in Newchwang and though not yet officially announced it is reported that 200 deaths had occurred up to date of writing.

The German Minister to Seoul has advised the Korean Government that Germany has no business interests in either Wiju or Pingyang, and does not feel either pleasure or pain in the opening or closing of these places.

A secret conference has taken place between M. Lessar and Li Lien-ying, the Empress Dowager's favourite eunuch, at White Cloud Temple, near Peking. It is supposed to have had reference to the making of a loan from the Russo-Chinese Bank, i.e. from Russia.

Mr. J. P. Rodger, C.M.G., who succeeds Sir Matthew Nathan in the Governorship of the Gold Coast, has been in the Federated Malay States Civil Service since 1882, when he was Chief Magistrate in Selangor. He was Acting Resident of Selangor, 1884-88; Resident of Pahang, 1888-96; Resident of Selangor, 1896-1902; and last year was made Resident of Perak.

L'Echo de Chine states on the strength of a report from "an authorised Chinese source" that Marshal Su has died in prison. The *Shanghai Mercury* says that in view of this incident, if one considers the efforts made in his favour by M. Dubail before the Chinese Government, one is justified in asking if the unfortunate marshal died a natural death. But the report is as yet unconfirmed.

Antung, otherwise known as Saho, has been substituted in the U.S. Commercial Treaty for Tatungkou, as one the of the two ports to be opened in Manchuria. Antung is claimed to be far the superior place.

The British Consul-General at Tientsin has succeeded in getting the British Government to issue the China medal and clasp to the members of the Tientsin Volunteer Corps, not British subjects, who served in the defence of Tientsin in 1900.

It is reported on good authority, says the *N.C. Daily News*, that Russia made a communication to our authorities to the effect that she would be pleased to see British Consulates established at Harbin and Moukden. The reply of our authorities was that they were contemplating sending Consuls to these towns, but that they would, of course, be accredited to the Chinese Government.

The British Minister at Seoul is said to have preferred a new demand to Corea, namely the opening of Kigampo, about five miles below Yong-ampho. Kigampo is the port where the Japanese troops were landed during the Japan-China war. The place is considered advantageous for off-setting the work of the Russians at Yong-ampho. As may be imagined, says the *Kobe Chronicle*, this new "demand" has not yet received a definite answer.

The Korean Government is seeking to make the closing of Phyongyang a condition of opening Wiju, but Japan strongly objects, inasmuch as there are two hundred Japanese settled in Phyongyang. According to the correspondent at Tokyo of the *N.C. Daily News*, rumour attributes this proposal of Corea to Russian suggestion; but Corea has long evinced a desire to exclude all foreigners from Phyongyang, in order that she may build a palace there.

The *Asahi* thinks that the result of the negotiations between Japan and Russia at St. Petersburg will be that Japan will be free to construct not only a Seoul-Wiju railway, but a railway also going beyond Wiju. "It is absurd," says the Japanese paper, "to think that Dalny is a good terminus for a trans-Asiatic railway. Fusan is the terminus, and it must finally take the place of Dalny." The *Asahi's* attitude strikes us as at least impolitic.

The *N.C. Daily News* correspondent, under date Tokyo, 15th September, wrote:—A deputation of politicians visiting the Premier, Count Katsura, yesterday urged that the new Russian demands constitute an insult to Japan, inasmuch as direct negotiations between Japan and Russia are in progress. If these new demands are granted by China, it will indicate that the latter Power is also unfriendly to Japan; it is therefore necessary to insist on a definite answer from Russia. The Premier, in reply, declared that the Government will take no step which will impair the national dignity or the prestige of the empire.

A report has obtained currency in the Colony that the Sherwood Foresters, our present garrison regiment, are not to stop with us; and, in fact, that their reliefs have already started, although no mention is made of the new regiment's name. As is well known, the Sherwood Foresters were badly crippled by sickness when they left South Africa for the Far East, and the trying climate of Hongkong and of North China, where half of the regiment is, has not tended to restore their condition to what it should be. In connection with this rumour it is just possible that it has its origin in the despatch from home of a new draft for the regiment; certainly we can obtain no confirmation of it.

MAJOR-GENERAL SIR WILLIAM GASCOIGNE'S DEPARTURE.

(Daily Press, 16th September.)

Major-General Sir W. J. Gascoigne, K.C.M.G., who took over the command of the troops in this Colony in December, 1898, on Major-General Black's departure, is to leave us early this morning on the steamship *Siberia*, homeward bound. Nearly five years of military command have been the lot of General Gascoigne, diversified with two terms of administration of the government of the whole Colony. During this period the General has won for himself the general liking and respect of all, civilians and military alike. Some idea of his popularity may be gathered from the proceedings on the *Siberia* yesterday evening, when so many of his friends were present to bid him and Lady Gascoigne farewell. But there were very many more, who were not present on that occasion, who yet have the warmest esteem for the late military head of this Colony. His personal character and amiability were chiefly responsible for this, but his success as commander of the garrison, coupled with his efficient rule of Hongkong in April-June, 1900, and January-September, 1902, when H.E. Sir Henry Blake was absent from the Colony, contributed very largely also to his reputation here. Though not of a disposition to put himself forward, General Gascoigne was forced by the circumstances of his period of office in Hongkong to take a prominent place on many occasions. In his first term as Acting Governor it was before him that the memorable review of the crew of H.M.S. *Terrible*, just arrived from South Africa, took place on the 9th May, 1900; while it also fell to him to hold the last public reception in Hongkong in celebration of the late Queen Victoria's birthday. In the busy times which Hongkong experienced during the "Boxer" troubles up North, General Gascoigne worked hard at his post, and in recognition of his services he was awarded the K.C.M.G., with which he was invested by H.E. the Governor at Government House on the 2nd November, 1901. During the next year, 1902, General Gascoigne had a much larger burden of responsibilities thrown upon his shoulders, since Sir Henry Blake was absent from the Colony more than eight months—from the 4th January to the 9th September. He was therefore called upon to be the central figure in connection with His Majesty the King's coronation celebration, and among the festivities in connection with this notable event he had the duty of turning the first sod of King's Park, Kowloon, on the 4th August, 1902. It was in this term of his administration of the Colony that the great Water Bill was introduced into the Legislative Council, which has now been upset by a new Bill. General Gascoigne took a very keen interest in this question and felt deeply the way in which he was, so to speak, betrayed by a change of opinion on the part of one of the experts. In all ways during his acting governorship of Hongkong he manifested the fullest anxiety to meet the wishes of the community, just as in his capacity as head of the troops he paid careful attention to the welfare of his men. His support of the Soldiers' Club and many other schemes to benefit the soldiers will ever be remembered gratefully. Sir William Gascoigne's departure from the Colony will create a blank which it will be hard to fill, and the best wishes of Hongkong will

follow him and Lady Gascoigne, who has won for herself a place in the hearts of the community, and among no section more than among the garrison's womenfolk. Both leave behind in Hongkong the sincerest regrets for their departure.

THE CITY OF WAICHOW.

(Daily Press, 18th September)

The twelfth section of Article VIII of the British Commercial Treaty of 1902 with China, commonly known as the Mackay Treaty, begins as follows:—"The Chinese Government agree to open to foreign trade on the same footing as the places opened to foreign trade by the Treaties of Nanking and Tientsin, the following places, namely:—Changsha in Hunan; Wahnsien in Szechuen; Nanking in Anhwei; Waichow in Kwangtung; and Kongsmoon in Kwangtung." Writing in July, 1902, soon after the announcement of this clause in Sir James Mackay's treaty, we expressed the satisfaction that must be felt at the opening of five new ports, and particularly pointed out that Waichow was an important addition. Now we learn, on very good authority, that while arrangements are already being made to open the other places, including Kongsmoon on the West River, it is not intended that Waichow shall be thrown open. The opposition of the Chinese officials has prevailed, and apparently the feeling on the British side is one of indifference merely. If this is true, a great error is being made, and the Hongkong Government is neglecting its duty in allowing a splendid opportunity to be lost to the Colony of opening up the territory at the back of Mirs Bay. The question concerns us in Hongkong more than any one else, and we cannot understand how the local authorities can remain idle and see the British Government consent to surrender a most important privilege promised by China, which should have very largely contributed to the expansion of our trade on the mainland. Hongkong is menaced in the future by the establishment of a railway terminus at Whampoa, which might do no small damage to this Colony's interests. Yet it is proposed now to neglect a magnificent chance of increasing our at present unrivalled ascendancy in the trade of Kwangtung.

Waichow is a town hardly known at all to Europeans, and it is not possible to obtain accurate information about its actual size and population. It is, however, a *Fu* or prefectural city, the capital of ten districts which include all the country round, without actually touching Mirs Bay, while they reach the sea at Bias Bay and stretch to the North and West of Kwangtung. It is built on the East River at the junction with the Tamshui River, which is comparatively small but is navigable by small craft as far as the market town of Tamshui, only some twenty-five miles distant from Mirs Bay. Across the Tamshui, Waichow is joined by a permanent bridge of boats to Kwaishin, an imposing-looking walled city. Waichow itself is an important garrison town. Were Waichow and Kwaishin to be opened, it seems hardly probable that trade could proceed by the East River, the route being too long, and the East River, though a fine and broad stream, being too shallow for any but native craft drawing very little water. No steam launch can get higher than Skekloong or Tungkun, and then only at high-water seasons of the year. It would never be possible to communicate between Hongkong and Waichow by steamer, and the distance would be about 150 miles. By land, on the

other hand, Waichow is only fifty miles distant from Mirs Bay, and the present roads are excellent for China, as those who have travelled on them can testify. On horseback the journey is easy, and it could be accomplished on bicycle without much distress. Between Waichow and Canton there is no road worthy of the name, the trade from Canton therefore stopping at Skekloong or Tungkun and being conducted thence to Waichow in shallow-draught native boats. This fact accounts for Waichow being at present quite overshadowed commercially by Skekloong and Tungkun, which deal with Canton and supply both Waichow and the whole prefecture with all they require, except for a small quantity of goods which passes in through the Imperial Maritime Customs stations at Mirs Bay. All ordinary foreign imports, such as cotton, oil, matches, etc., now go through Skekloong, which is also the medium through which a fair amount of rice, sugar, timber, etc., is exported to Canton. If Waichow, however, were joined to Kowloon, it would from its position become the natural distributing-centre for the whole of the East River and right up to the borders of Kiangsi, whither the Waichow prefecture extends. At present the inconvenience of communication between Waichow and the outside world are so great that its trade is comparatively small for the large portion of Kwangtung province which it represents. The difficulty of joining Waichow to Kowloon is not worth mentioning. As we have already said, the existing road is excellent; indeed it is the best in the province. Starting from Mirs Bay, it crosses the plateau at the back and descends to a plain reaching the entire distance to the East River. There is no water to cross, no hill to tunnel, and the surrounding country is rich, fertile, and well-populated throughout. We have repeatedly advocated in the past the prosecution of the Kowloon-Canton railway scheme, but the concessionaries obviously have no intention of hastening to take up their rights. Such a line, though on the more mountainous side of Kowloon, should not offer many difficulties to engineers. But a line from Kowloon to Waichow would be infinitely easier. Whether it would be feasible in the future to carry such a line on to Swatow we cannot say. Waichow itself, however, as an objective should be sufficiently tempting, if only for the sake of the benefits which must accrue to the Colony from the opening up of the hinterland, quite unexploited so far, and bringing a new and vigorous labour-supply to Hongkong. Up to very recent times we have not felt the dearth of the latter, but it requires only a slight acquaintance with the labour-market now to know that this is no longer so.

Only a few more remarks need be added before we finish. Apart from the vast area which, as an open port in communication with Kowloon, Waichow would tap, its immediate neighbourhood promises lucrative returns for trade. The lower East River, especially Tungkun and Skekloong, is celebrated for brick and pottery-making; nearly half the bricks used in Hongkong, we believe, come from the East River. If this river is ever opened up it must be overland, as the mouth, where it enters the Pearl River, is split up into innumerable small creeks, all useless for navigation. The country immediately round Waichow is a large plain, perfectly level and well watered, but not cultivated. It already supports thousands of head of cattle, being indeed a huge pasture ground. As a cattle-breeding centre it seems to offer unrivalled opportunities. The importance of this to Hongkong will be readily estimated.

Our cattle-supply is now much circumscribed, with Kwangsi, on which we chiefly rely, in its present condition and H.E. Viceroy SHUM doing his best to stop the export altogether. This point by itself would make the joining of Kowloon and Waichow advisable in the interests of Hongkong.

The inhabitants of the city of Waichow have the reputation of being rather turbulent, but this stigma upon them is attached by Canton, where the officials feel no little anxiety about the town. Two years ago Waichow was the centre of a rebellion, which looked serious at one time, but was eventually put down by Admiral Ho. It was also supposed to be the headquarters of the abortive movement last China New Year, which caused so great a scare after the capture of arms, etc., at Canton. Toward foreigners, however, the Waichow people do not appear to feel animosity. In the 1901 rebellion the proclamations were directed against Manchus, corrupt officials, and Wu men (i.e., Hunanese troops), while expressly directing that no harm should be done to missionaries and converts. These orders were strictly carried out, it will be remembered.

We think we have said enough to show that in acquiescing in Waichow remaining closed, in defiance of Article VIII, Section 12, of the MACKAY Treaty, the British Government will be making a gross blunder; and that the Hongkong authorities in not protesting to the Colonial Office will incur the charge of distinct neglect of duty. It is not too late now to make a protest. We earnestly hope that our local Government will shake off its apathy and make the strongest possible representations to the home authorities that, for the sake of Hongkong, it is urgent that Waichow shall not be dropped out of the list of new treaty ports. Hongkong is threatened (at least) with serious competition. The Kowloon-Canton railway scheme still stagnates. Let us not therefore also disregard a possible chance of bringing the Colony into touch with a rich and productive district of great extent, the centre of distribution to which lies only fifty miles away from our frontier on the mainland, and can easily be connected with our suburb of Kowloon. It is not too late now, we repeat, to present matters to the Colonial Office in their real guise. But if the Hongkong Government leaves it until it is too late, then it will inflict a grievous blow on this Colony, for which succeeding generations will not find it easy to forgive those now in control.

BRITISH ENTERPRISE ON THE LOWER YANGTSE.

(Daily Press, 14th September.)

As will be seen from the statement appearing in another column, a steamer is to be built in this Colony for the trade of the Lower Yangtze. Messrs. BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, representing the China Navigation Company, have given the order, and the contract is with the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company. Both firms are to be most heartily congratulated, and the evidence of the vitality of British enterprise is satisfactory to the highest degree. The note most frequently sounded in connection with British shipping and commercial affairs in recent years has been one of pessimism, a "croak" in fact; and this has been heard in the Far East as elsewhere. It has been easy to make out a bad case, for it is impossible to deny that Germany and the United States, and, out here, Japan, have made enormous progress; from which, being able to show that Great Britain's percentage

of trade, etc., has decreased, the alarmists have deduced British decadence. The view is, of course, fundamentally false. The increasing wealth of our competitors has enabled them to spend largely on the increase of their commerce, with corresponding results. Britain's wealth has also greatly, but not to such a gigantic extent as to equal the growth of all our competitors combined. How any sane man could imagine that it would, it is hard to see. Nevertheless, though the absurdities of the prophets of British ruin are only to be noted with feelings of astonishment, it cannot be denied that there is apparent in many quarters of the British commercial world a distinct excess of conservative policy. Still worse is the neglect of the British Government to protect its nationals' trade interests as other countries do those of theirs. It is not necessary to dwell on the latter point among British residents in the Far East. The facts of recent history are only too painfully familiar.

To return to the new enterprise which we commenced by mentioning. It is gratifying to see attention being paid to the Yangtze region, which was once generally looked upon as an almost exclusive British sphere of influence, but the trade in which has now attracted very serious rivalry and even a denial of our pre-eminence by certain countries of late. It will not be uninteresting to look at a few figures of the shipping on the Lower Yangtze during the two past years, taken from the Imperial Maritime Customs reports. The statistics of the five ports of Chinkiang, Nanking, Wuhu, Kiukiang and Hankow repay examination. If we take the figures of vessels entered and cleared at each port in 1901 and 1902, we find the following. At Chinkiang in 1901 British vessels numbered 2,664 out of a total of 5,182; in 1902 they numbered 2,483 out of 4,935. But in the spite of the fall both in British and in total numbers, British tonnage increased from 2,596,032 to 2,688,035. A great increase in vessels under the United States flag (from 166 to 393) was observable, while the German vessels suffered a large decline (from 1,038 to 718). At Nanking the figures of vessels entered and cleared were:—1901, British 1,182, total 2,298; 1902, British 1,182, total 2,465. But British tonnage increased from 1,381,758 to 1,429,140. A great American advance was noticeable here too. At Wuhu the figures were:—1901, British 1,883, total 3,469; 1902, British 1,935, total 3,668. British tonnage again advanced from 2,194,892 to 2,295,984. Japanese vessels increased in number from 272 to 408. At Kiukiang the figures were:—1901, British 1,680, total 3,168; 1902, British 1,694, total 3,352. British tonnage advanced from 1,931,934 to 2,021,852. A large Japanese increase was recorded. At Hankow, lastly, the numbers were:—1901, British 1,009, total 2,538; 1902, British 1,033, total 2,691. British tonnage rose from 1,162,043 to 1,226,719. Japanese shipping once more showed progress. Thus at the five ports British shipping well maintained its position, comprising more than 50 per cent. of the total number of vessels entered and cleared; and British tonnage in every case increased, even when the number of vessels declined or was stationary. There seems little ground for despair in these figures. But it must, of course, be recognised that other countries, particularly the United States and Japan are making bold bids for the Lower Yangtze trade, a fact which renders such energy as Messrs. BUTTERFIELD and SWIRE are now exhibiting all the more praiseworthy.

THE REGISTRATION OF SERVANTS.

(Daily Press, 12th September.)

There appears to be at the present time in Rangoon a certain amount of agitation in favour of the compulsory registration of native servants, owing to the constant complaints as to the badness of domestic service there. The question is one which has almost perpetually agitated European settlements in the East, though from time to time it sinks out of sight. In Hongkong at present we hear no little outcry against the ordinary class of "boy" who offers himself as servant of some sort to the resident here. We do not know that the evil is worse at the instant than it has been for some years back; but it seems to us that complaints are exceedingly rife just now and Police Court proceedings have shown that there is a lot to justify most of those which are brought under the eye of the law. There has always been a strong party here in favour of legislation in the direction of registration, but it has never been able to convince the Government or even the most influential part of the European community that its cure for the servant-evil is the right one. The Chamber of Commerce when last consulted on the point was against a registration scheme, thus furnishing the authorities with a most powerful argument against any measure of the kind. Yet we are certain that the general consensus of public opinion among residents is in favour of the only plan which seems to promise a remedy for a problem which confronts almost every householder in Hongkong and Kowloon. The situation appears to be much the same in Rangoon, but we see that the *Rangoon Gazette* in one of its latest numbers writes against the introduction of compulsory registration. Our contemporary gives for its readers' benefit a summary of the Ceylon Ordinance of 1871, providing for the registration of domestic servants of all classes. From this it appears that the master has imposed on him the following obligations, failure to fulfil which is punishable by a fine. He has to furnish the Registrar within a specified time with a list in writing of the names of his servants, capacity in which employed, and duty of engagement of each. He must transmit to the Registrar a memorandum of the date of a servant quitting his employ. He must not engage a servant whose pocket register is not forthcoming or is not in order. He must enter in the register the date and capacity in which a servant is engaged; and the date and cause of a servant's discharge. He must give the servant a character or, failing this, must supply the Registrar with his reasons in writing for so doing. The *Gazette* thinks that few persons in Rangoon would patiently endure such restrictions. We have heard similar objections made in Hongkong. But, seeing what most masters have now to endure, more or less patiently, from the incompetence or dishonesty of servants, we take leave to doubt the argument. As for the servants, the Ceylon Ordinance provides that every one must give full details of himself or herself to the Registrar. He must obtain a pocket register in which those details are entered and produce it whenever called on to do so. Servants are placed under the control of the Registrar, whose office is a branch of police work. Finger-impressions of male registered servants are taken in the pocket register; this, of course, is a more certain means of identification than by photograph. As in Hongkong, so in Rangoon it is argued by the opponents of registration that the

trouble which registration would give to would-be servants must make the supply scarcer and dearer. Here, however, it seems to us that the supply of servants (if we pay no regard to their fitness) exceeds the demand considerably. "Weeding out" is urgently needed. The surplus of incompetents and rogues bring the masters no advantage, but distinctly the contrary. Such bad characters are precisely those who would most resent the trouble of trying to get registered, and it is them whom it is desirable to discourage.

There is of course an alternative to compulsory registration of domestic servants, and this we see our Rangoon contemporary mentioned above advocates. It is the establishment of a servants' agency, with voluntary registration. "If such were well run, in time the certificate of such an agency would hall-mark the most desirable servants; and those employers who now ask for compulsory registration could pledge themselves to take only those servants who were registered in this 'voluntary agency.'" We imagine that the well known Chinese weapon of "boycott" would imperil the chances of success of such an institution here. Besides, the registered servant would necessarily, it looks, have to be higher-priced than the unregistered, so that the pledged employers would have to pay for their principles—no doubt to the amusement of the less self-denying. Unless compulsory registration can be shown radically unsound, which it has not yet been shown to be, the present supporters of the idea would be unwise to abandon it in favour of a scheme which cannot even be called a half-and-half scheme.

(Daily Press, 17th September.)

Whilst it is very satisfactory to hear of the recovery by the Police of the bulk of jewelry stolen from the Hon. Dr. ATKINSON's house at the Peak on the 17th June last; of the smart capture of a coolie in the employ of Mr. FRANK BROWNE, Government Analyst, who made off on the 5th July with articles of the value of upwards of \$320; and of the trial of another domestic servant for the extensive robbery of valuables from his mistress, Mrs. GILLANDERS, as showing the increased activity and ability of the detective branch of the Force, it also suggests the reflection that the registration of servants is more than ever necessary. In all the three cases mentioned above, these robberies were perpetrated by the servants. In another case, which occurred about the same time as the robbery from the residence of the Principal Medical Officer, namely the very comprehensive clearance of all the valuables belonging to Mrs. W. O. JACK by her house-boy from their house in Kowloon while his master and mistress were away at Macao, the act was also a breach of trust by a domestic servant, and he seems to have got off scot-free. In each case, no doubt, the employer had reposed considerable trust in the employee, and this confidence had been greatly abused. It would be interesting to have a return of all the robberies committed by Chinese servants from their employers during the past five years, and the number of convictions obtained against the perpetrators. It would also be instructive to compile a list of the losses, and the number of instances in which there had been a recovery of any of the stolen property. What would be still more useful would be a return—were that possible—showing in how many instances the employers had either neglected to demand char-

acters with these dishonest servants or had been deluded with borrowed papers. Some residents are even rash enough to engage coolies or boys without a written character, accepting, for the sake of avoiding trouble, the assurance of the candidate for service that he had lived with Mr. or Mrs. So and So for a certain period, and had previously acted in similar capacity with other well known former residents, but had lost his papers. This story, always plausibly told, and sometimes supported by an obvious knowledge of the persons named, is too apt to impose upon fresh arrivals in the Colony, who thus not infrequently take into their service known bad characters or servants with a record for insolence and squeezing.

It is high time that some check should be imposed upon this system of chartering rascality. Good servants are not infrequently driven to refuse to take service in houses where they find some notorious blackmailer installed, who insists upon receiving a proportion of their wages as a premium for admission into the household, which he runs to his own profit and his employer's detriment and loss. If the Government would only permit the establishment of a compulsory system of registration, as suggested by the Commission appointed some time ago to report on the desirability of the registration of servants, it would do much to remedy the present unsatisfactory state of affairs. The Commission recommended that the private chair-coolies—their report was limited to this class of servant—should be registered by the Police, and photographs attached to the certificate of registration. This latter provision was, we believe, regarded with disfavour by His Excellency the Governor, who thought the coolies would object to be photographed. Possibly some of them would at first; indeed, it is highly probable that some of them have excellent reasons for objecting to such a provision, as it might prove exceedingly inconvenient if they followed previous practices and decamped one fine day with their masters' property. The honest decent coolies would not object to be photographed any more than do the engineers and other Chinese who are employed in launches, etc., who are registered and photographed. If some did object, it might well be construed against them as a point for suspicion, for mere prejudice is always soon overcome in a Chinaman when dollars or good employment are at stake. They would, moreover, soon learn to value these certificates, as would also the employer, knowing they could not—owing to the attachment of photograph as proof of identity—be loaned as is now the case with so many Chinese credentials. Known bad characters would be at once weeded out of the ranks of domestic servants, and inferior servants would experience a difficulty in obtaining situations, while those with good credentials would be able to secure the high wages that experience and good conduct would entitle them to expect. The benefits of registration would prove by no means one-sided. The servants would profit equally with the masters; perhaps, on the whole, they would be the greater gainers, for not only would their ranks be purged of the rascals who have forced their way in and brought them into discredit, but they would most certainly be able to command higher wages for long and good service. The registration would also enable the Police to trace offenders, and put some check on the now very common offence of burglary. It would also lead to the gradual formation of a superior class of domestic servant, who would be more self-respecting, more reliable, and more inclined to give willing and good service for the pay earned.

ROBBERY WITH VIOLENCE IN HONGKONG.

(Daily Press, 18th September.)

We little thought, when writing yesterday of burglaries in this Colony, that the most audacious case of robbery by daylight that has ever occurred in Hongkong would have to be recorded in our next issue. In another column to-day may be read the account of a most astonishingly barefaced act of robbery at 18, Belilios Terrace, on Wednesday afternoon. In connection with this case, we desire to call particular attention to the last paragraph but one in our report, which states that some time ago Miss BATEMAN, the victim of this latest outrage, was robbed by a house-boy of \$80. The thief escaped on that occasion, although Miss BATEMAN was able to inform the Police what he was like and where he lived on the mainland. On the present occasion neither the victim nor her amah recognised any of the gang. It is obvious, however, that the perpetrators of the outrage had prepared the whole course of proceedings beforehand, and were well acquainted with their ground of operations. It would seem hardly credible that a gang of six men (for there seem to have been at least so many concerned) should be able, in broad daylight and in so frequented a neighbourhood as Belilios Terrace, to carry through successfully a crime of this nature. But such is the case. The Police may be trusted to use their best endeavours to bring the guilty to justice; but it is evident that the Colony at the present moment is swarming with dishonest rogues, no small number of them in the guise of "boys" and other servants, and that both the system by which we obtain our servants at present and the control of the authorities over the ingress of bad characters are utterly inadequate.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held on the 17th inst. in the Council Chamber.

PRESENT:—

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR, Sir HENRY A. BLAKE, G.C.M.G.
Colonel L. F. BROWN, R.E. (Commanding the Troops).
Hon. F. H. MAY, C.M.G. (Colonial Secretary).
Hon. Sir HENRY SPENCER BERKELEY, Kt. (Attorney-General).
Hon. A. M. THOMSON (Colonial Treasurer).
Hon. Commander R. M. RUMSEY, R.N. (Harbour Master).
Hon. W. CHATHAM (Director of Public Works).
Hon. J. M. ATKINSON (Principal Civil Medical Officer).
Hon. Sir C. P. CHATER, C.M.G.
Hon. Dr. Ho KAI, C.M.G.
Hon. C. W. DICKSON.
Hon. WEI YUK.
Hon. GERSHOM STEWART.
Hon. H. E. POLLOCK, K.C.
Mr. R. F. JOHNSTON (Acting Clerk of Councils).

NEW MEMBER.

Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., took the oath as a new member of the Council and assumed his seat. Colonel Brown, R.E., Officer Commanding the Garrison, also took the oath and assumed his seat.

COMMITTEE VACANCIES.

HIS EXCELLENCY said there were vacancies on the Law Committee and the Public Works Committee. He nominated Mr. Pollock for the former, and Mr. Stewart for the latter vacancy.

FINANCIAL.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table Financial Minutes (Nos. 36 to 49), and moved that they be referred to the Finance Committee. The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table the Report of the Finance Committee (No. 8) and moved its adoption.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

INSPECTOR McEWEN'S CASE.

Hon. H. E. POLLOCK asked—

1. Is it the fact that the warrant for the arrest of Inspector R. G. McEwen for the purpose of his being tried for bribery was issued upon the sworn information of the Assistant Registrar-General, Mr. Clementi?

2. Is it the fact that Inspector R. G. McEwen's application to the Government through his solicitors, for the payment by the Government to him of his legal expenses in connection with his recent trial for bribery, has been refused? If so, for what reason was such application refused?

3. For what reason has Inspector R. G. McEwen been removed from his recent post as Inspector of Markets? Was he so removed in consequence of an intimation having been received by the Government to the effect that, unless he was so removed, difficulties would be likely to occur in connection with the supply of poultry to the public from the Central Market?

The COLONIAL SECRETARY replied—

(1) It is the fact that Mr. Clementi, Assistant Registrar-General, laid the information on which the warrant for Inspector McEwen's arrest was issued.

(2) It is the fact that Government refused to pay Inspector McEwen's legal expenses. There is no precedent for payment by Government of legal expenses in such a case, and many precedents for not paying them.

(3) Inspector McEwen was transferred to Kowloon because it was considered undesirable to employ him in the Central Market. No such intimation as referred to in the question was made to Government nor was any application, request or suggestion for Inspector McEwen's removal from persons outside the Government service made to Government.

REHOUSING OF POPULATION.

Hon. Mr. POLLOCK asked—In connection with the re-housing of the population, what enquiries have been made by the Government for the purpose of ascertaining how many vacant storeys there are in (a) the City of Victoria; (b) Kowloon? Will the Government state the result of those enquiries and give an approximate estimate of the number of persons who could be housed on such vacant storeys in (a) the City of Victoria; (b) Kowloon?

The COLONIAL SECRETARY replied—The Government has made enquiries and ascertained that in July there were 1,372 floors vacant in Victoria, and 1,125 in Kowloon, capable of accommodating 14,253 and 11,379 persons respectively.

MALARIAL FEVER.

Hon. Mr. POLLOCK asked—In connection with the prevention of malarial fever, is it the fact that the Government has been training nullahs in the neighbourhood of Macdonnell Road below the Bowen Road level only? If so, for what reason have nullahs not been trained right down the northern face of the hill from top to bottom?

The COLONIAL SECRETARY replied—In this matter the Government has dealt with the worst places first. The nullahs above Bowen Road have, in the meantime, been dealt with systematically by clearing them in places where water stagnates and sprinkling pools with kerosene. At the present time, a contract is let for training, both above and below Bowen Road, the only nullah in this district which is untrained below Macdonnell Road.

FLUSHING OF SEWERS.

Hon. Mr. POLLOCK also asked—(1) What steps have been taken to provide means for flushing the low-level sewers with great vigour, as recommended by Mr. Chadwick at page 23 of his Report of the 10th April, 1902? (2) Has the plan of the drains which is referred to at page 32 of the said Report been completed yet, and, if not, why not? (3) What steps have been taken to carry out recommendations (a), (b), (c) and (d), contained on page 32 of the said Report?

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS replied as follows:—

1. A contract has been let for the construction of a large flushing tank in accordance with

the recommendations contained in para. 7 *et seq.* of Mr. Chadwick's report of the 13th May, 1902, which supersedes that of the 10th April. Some difficulty was experienced in obtaining a site for the tank.

2. The plan of the sewers has been completed. The plan of the drains has not been completed as it is a very difficult matter to trace underground channels, of the existence of which there is no evidence on the surface. The condition of the Staff of the Department has not permitted of Officers being detailed expressly for this purpose.

3. (a) No work of the nature indicated had been done since the date of Mr. Chadwick's report, but numerous old and obsolete drains have been abolished during recent years, and the same policy will be pursued in the future as occasion arises. (b) No case in which this is practicable and expedient has yet been discovered. (c) Will be largely accomplished by the new type of gully. The scavenging is under the control of the Sanitary Board. (d) There are 8 places where this is now done; 5 of these were arranged in connection with the carrying out of the sewerage scheme and 3 have been more recently constructed. The places in which it is practicable to adopt the suggestion are necessarily limited. The water for the large tank referred to in the reply to (1) will be derived from such a source.

APPROPRIATION BILL FOR 1904.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY introduced a Bill entitled an Ordinance to apply a sum not exceeding Five million two hundred and thirty-eight thousand seven hundred and ninety-two Dollars to the Public Service of the year 1904:—

Whereas the expenditure required for the service of this Colony for the year 1904 has, apart from the contribution to the Imperial Government in aid of Military Expenditure, been estimated at the sum of Five million two hundred and thirty-eight thousand seven hundred and ninety-two Dollars:

Be it enacted by the Governor of Hongkong, with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council thereof, as follows:—

1. A sum not exceeding five million two hundred and thirty-eight thousand seven hundred and ninety-two dollars shall be and the same is hereby charged upon the revenue and other funds of the Colony for the service of the year 1904, and the said sum so charged may be expended as hereinafter specified, that is to say:—

EXPENDITURE.	\$
Charge on account of Public Debt	185,000.00
Pensions	189,000.00
Governor	81,574.00
Colonial Secretary's Department and Legislature	86,192.00
Audit Department	16,579.00
Treasury	49,098.00
Post Office	348,241.00
Registrar General's Department	35,606.00
Harbour Master's Department	162,822.00
Lighthouses	23,608.00
Observatory	46,763.00
Botanical and Afforestation Department	151,893.00
Judicial and Legal Departments	9,554.00
Land Court, New Territory	2,400.00
Ecclesiastical	164,979.00
Education	240,734.00
Medical Departments	39,398.00
Bacteriological Department	692,338.00
Magistracy	487,522.00
Police	5,260.00
Sanitary Department	3,000.00
Charitable Allowances	154,854.00
Transport	52,670.00
Miscellaneous Services	245,598.00
Colonial Defence—	394,200.00
Expenses of the Volunteers	93,500.00
Public Works Department	
Public Works, Recurrent, Chargeable to General Revenue	
Public Works, Recurrent, Chargeable to Water Account	
Public Works, Extraordinary, viz.:—	
Buildings:—	
Bacteriological Institute	\$ 15,000.00
Cattle Depot Extension	20,000.00
Disinfecting Station, Kowloon, including Quarters for Inspector	10,000.00

Gunpowder Depot, Green Island	15,000.00
Harbour Office	35,000.00
Law Courts	60,000.00
Markets:—	
Wanchai Extension	2,000.00
Western	20,000.00
Post Office	40,000.00
Prison on Stonecutters' Island	20,000.00
Public Bath-houses, Pound Lane	5,000.00
Public Latrines and Urinals	12,000.00
Public Mortuary	5,000.00
Schools:—	
Saiyungpoon, Latrines	2,500.00
Yanmati	15,000.00
Tai Po, Quarters for officers	10,000.00
Cable for Observatory and other Telephone lines to Kowloon	5,000.00
Drainage Works:—	
Gullies Re-construction	20,000.00
Training Nullahs	10,000.00
New Territory Survey	6,000.00
Praya East Reclamation	10,000.00
Public Health and Buildings Ordinance 1 of 1903:—	
Compensation	60,000.00
Insanitary Property Resumptions	350,000.00
Rifle Ranges:—	
Construction of Butts	14,000.00
Diversion of Roads	5,000.00
Resumption of Private Property for	20,000.00
Roads:—	
Across King's Park (K.I.L. 652 to Sixth Street)	25,000.00
To Lai-chi-kok	20,000.00
Store Account	100.00
Water Works:—	
Albany Filter Beds, Alteration and Repairs	2,000.00
City and Hill District Water Works	3,000.00
Kowloon Water Works Gravitation Scheme	250,000.00
Peak Supply and Reconstruction of No. 2 Tank	5,000.00
Tai Po Water Supply	3,800.00
Tytam Drainage Area, Byewash Reservoir	15,000.00
Tytam Tuk Scheme	100,000.00
Total	\$5,238,792.00

The COLONIAL SECRETARY also laid on the table two memoranda dealing with the Estimates. He said—Sir, These two memoranda added to the Estimates themselves will, I hope, furnish full information to hon. members of the various changes in the Estimates as compared with the Estimates for the current year. Should any further explanation be required I shall be happy to do my best to furnish it when we reach the Committee stage. In the meantime, sir, I may be permitted to refer to some of the more salient features of these Estimates. The revised estimate of ordinary revenue for the current year exceeds the original estimate of ordinary revenue by \$254,478. The corresponding estimates for land sales are the same. It will be remembered that at the time the Estimates for the current year were introduced several Ordinances were also introduced increasing various licenses and dues, which it was not possible to include in the Estimates. The increase, therefore, is due to the increased fees and duties (principally on spirit licences and stamps) legislated for at the time the Estimates were introduced last year, but not included in the Estimates. The revised estimate of ordinary expenditure for the current year exceeds the original estimate by \$112,421. The revised estimate of expenditure on Public Work Extraordinary, however, is less by \$169,340 than the original estimate. The total saving on the original estimate of expenditure is therefore \$49,919. The original estimates for 1903 showed a deficit of \$712,316. The revised estimates show one of \$407,909, but, with savings from previous years and arrears, the balance of liabilities on 31st December will be only \$281,031. The estimated ordinary revenue for 1904 exceeds the revised estimate for 1903 by \$1,370,535 made up generally as follows:—Opium Farm, \$1,225,000; assessed taxes, \$96,000; spirit licences, \$23,000; postage,

\$24,000; land revenue, \$5,000; a few decreases of small amounts accounting for the difference. The estimated ordinary expenditure exceeds the estimate for 1903 by \$543,447 made up as follows:—Stipulated increments and increases of salaries, \$30,329.89; new posts, \$41,956; exchange compensation, \$2,911.60; fall in exchange, \$9,390.38; conversion of dollar salaries to sterling salaries, \$12,701.60; allowances, \$8,011.75; other items, \$2,988; other charges, \$21,418.55; pensions, \$1,640; miscellaneous services, \$27,035; military expenditure—contribution to Imperial Government, \$375,893; Public Works recurrent, \$9,200; total, \$543,447.77. The estimated ordinary revenue exceeds the estimated ordinary expenditure by \$950,358. The estimate of Public Works extraordinary for 1904 is \$1,273,400 while land sales are expected to realise \$409,000, leaving a difference of \$873,400; there is therefore an estimated surplus of \$76,959. The estimate of revenue for 1904 is however a cautious one, and it must be remembered that the increased revenue for the Opium Farm does not begin till the 1st March next, so that in 1905 there will be a further increase from this source represented by two months' fees from it. If due regard be had to economy in expenditure, it may be expected that the debit balance of \$281,039, with which we shall begin the year 1904, will be wiped off by the expansion of revenue, at any rate early in 1905 if not before.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion for the first reading of the Bill was agreed to.

VICTORIA DAY.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the third reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance to set apart a holiday to be known as "Victoria Day" in loving remembrance of Her Most Gracious Majesty the late Queen Victoria.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the Bill was read a third time and passed.

EXPORT OF CATTLE.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the third reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to provide for the Regulation of the Export of Cattle and other Live Stock from the Colony.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the Bill was read a third time and passed.

THE WATERWORKS ORDINANCE.

The Council went into committee on the Bill entitled an Ordinance to repeal the Waterworks Consolidation Ordinance, 1902, and to provide for and regulate the Supply of Water in the Colony of Hongkong and for the Maintenance and Repair of the Works in connection therewith.

Several minor amendments were made and section 32 was deleted.

On the Council resuming,

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the third reading of the Bill.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the Bill was read a third time and passed.

DEPARTURE OF CAPTAIN MURRAY RUMSEY.

HIS EXCELLENCY said—Gentlemen,—Before we separate now I would like with your permission to make a few observations. We have just lost one of our members of Council and we are about to lose another member, Captain Murray Rumsey, who is to-day sitting for the last time at this Council. His Excellency the Major-General Commanding, who had been in this Colony for five years, left the Colony two days ago with every expression of good-will on the part of the community. Captain Murray Rumsey has been for nineteen years in this Colony, and before that time he had rendered valuable services in His Majesty's Navy and in other Colonies. He has been for ten years a member of this Council and for seven years a member of the Executive Council. I think I am only stating the views of all you gentlemen present when I wish to express publicly to Captain Murray Rumsey my high appreciation of his valuable services to this Colony. (Applause.) Captain Murray Rumsey is not only thoroughly conversant with every detail of his own duties, but both at this Council and in the important duty of advising me in Executive Council I have always found that I could depend on Captain Murray Rumsey for giving sound and well

considered and always thoroughly independent advice. Captain Murray Rumsey is now leaving the Colony very soon, and I am sure you join with me in wishing him a long life to enjoy the pension that he has so richly earned and the honour that has been placed upon him by His Majesty in appointing him one of the first members of the Imperial Service Order. (Applause.) I do not know whether Hongkong forgets its old friends, but I hope if Hongkong does not forget its old friends that perhaps some day in the not distant future Captain Murray Rumsey and I may meet again in Hongkong at the opening of that great bridge, the inception of which must always be connected with his name. (Applause.) I am sure the members of this Council will wish every happiness to Captain Murray Rumsey. (Applause.)

Hon. Captain MURRAY RUMSEY said—Your Excellency and gentlemen, I am deeply sensible of the high honour which I have received in the kind remarks of your Excellency and the way in which they were received by the Council. A greater compliment I cannot imagine any public officer receiving. It is the greatest satisfaction to me, on leaving the service of the Colony, to think that I have so performed my duty as to merit these remarks. (Applause.) The Council adjourned till Thursday, 1st proximo.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was held immediately after the Council, the Colonial Secretary (Hon. F. H. May, C.M.G.) presiding.

The following votes were all passed:—

CEMETERY EXPENSES.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$1,350 in aid of the vote for Cemetery Incidental Expenses under Other Charges, Sanitary Department.

CHINESE SCHOOL AT YAUMATI.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$6,000 in aid of vote Public Works, Extraordinary, to meet the cost during the current year of the works of constructing a school at Yaumati for Chinese.

REPAIRS TO "HYGEIA."

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$2,328 in aid of the vote for Repairs to Epidemic Hulk *Hygeia* under Other Charges, Harbour Master's Department.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENTS EMOLUMENTS.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$352 in aid of the vote for Personal Emoluments, Medical Departments:—Increases to Salaries of the following Staff from 1st September to 31st December, 1903:—

Civil Hospital:—	
13 Chinese Nurses	\$156
4 Dispensary Coolies	4
13 Coolies	52
Attendants for Sisters:—	
3 House Coolies,	12
	\$224
Lunatic Asylums:—	
6 Chinese Nurses	72
4 Coolies	16
	88
Maternity Hospital:—	
2 Chinese Nurses	24
2 Coolies	8
	32
Kennedy Town Hospital:	
2 Coolies	8
Total	\$ 363

MAGISTRACY VOTE.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$900 in aid of the vote for the Magistracy under Other Charges:—

Office Furniture, Repairs, and Incidental Expenses	\$ 450
Costs of Witnesses for giving Evidence in Criminal Cases, and for Interpreting Dialects with which the Court Interpreters are unacquainted,	450
Total	\$ 900

PUBLIC WORKS EXTRAORDINARY.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$11,000 in aid of the votes for the following items under Public Works Extraordinary:—

1. Extension of Inspector's Quarters at Kennedy Town	\$ 2,000
2. City and Hill District Waterworks	4,000
3. Government Offices—Extensions and Alterations	1,500
4. Temporary Market adjoining new Harbour Office	1,000
5. Governor's Peak Residence	2,500
Total	\$ 11,000

OBSERVATORY CHARGES.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$204 in aid of the vote Observatory, Other Charges, to meet cost of flags required for making Weather Signals for the information of Shipmasters.

TRAINING NULLAHs.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$875.06 for Public Works Extraordinary to meet the excess over the estimate not covered by savings, incurred in training the Western District nullahs.

LAND REGISTRY OFFICE.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$219.80 in aid of the vote Land Registry Office, Other Charges, to meet cost of the following:—

One Typewriting machine	\$280.80
One Table for the machine	9.00
Total	\$289.80

TELEGRAPH SERVICE.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$3,000 in aid of the vote for Telegraph Service,—Telegrams sent and received by Government—under Miscellaneous Services.

FIRE BRIGADE VOTE.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$1,800 in aid of the vote Fire Brigade, Other Charges, for the item "Repairs, to Engines, Hose, &c., and Gratuities."

POST OFFICE VOTE.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$45 in aid of the Vote Post Office, Personal Emoluments, for the following items:—

Accountant	
Superintendent of Registration Branch	
being a personal non-pensionable allowance equivalent to 25 per cent. of the salary of their posts.	
Local Allowance,	
Microscope and Post-mortem Instruments, £29 18s. 6d. @ 1/10 to the Dollar,	\$ 326.18
5% for Incidentals,	16.30
Total	\$ 342.48

VICTORIA HOSPITAL.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$200 in aid of the vote Medical Departments, Other Charges, Victoria Hospital for Women and Children, to meet the cost of fixtures required.

This was all the business.

SHIP-BUILDING IN HONGKONG.

We are informed that, Messrs. Butterfield & Swire, on behalf of the China Navigation Co., Ltd., have contracted with the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd., for a new light draught twin-screw steamer for the Lower Yangtze trade. The vessel will be of a length of 310 feet, with a 46 ft. beam; her draught will be 14.3 ft., and her tonnage will be about 2,000. Thus she will be the largest steamer by far that has yet been built in Hongkong. Naturally it may be expected that she will be fitted throughout with the most complete and up-to-date equipment for the safety and comfort of European and Chinese passengers alike.

There are rumours that similar vessels will shortly be contracted for by the Indo-China Steam Navigation Co., Ltd., and China Merchants Steam Navigation Co., and we can only hope that our Local Dock Co. may be successful in securing the work for Hongkong.

COLONIAL ESTIMATES.

The following abstract of the estimated revenue for the Year 1904, showing also the probable revenue for 1903, and the actual revenue of 1902, was laid on the table at the Legislative Council meeting on the 17th inst.:-

	1902.	1903.	1904.
Light dues	63,106.52	73,000.00	70,000.00
Licences and internal revenue not otherwise specified	2,607,520.55	2,902,578.00	2,925,105.00
Fees of court or office, payments for specific purposes, and reimbursements in Aid	296,700.19	331,337.00	375,273.00
Post office	381,066.19	451,935.00	473,000.00
Rent of Government property, land and houses	572,386.15	609,083.00	614,300.00
Interest	2,003.92	3,000.00	2,000.00
Miscellaneous receipts	233,070.49	214,810.00	193,430.00
Water account—Or finance 16 of 1890	171,949.47	232,000.00	250,000.00
Land sales	4,320,712.48	4,837,773.00	6,508,308.00
Total, exclusive of land sales	571,361.22	330,000.00	400,000.00
Total	4,901,073.70	5,167,773.00	6,908,308.00

The following financial statements in connection with the Estimates for 1904 were also submitted:-

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, ON THE 31ST DECEMBER, 1902.	
ASSETS.	
Balance in bank	146,883.81
Subsidiary coins	600,000.00
Advances	59,481.05
Suspense house service	313.03
Profit, Money Order Office	10,000.00
Total assets	\$815,933.89
LIABILITIES.	
Crown agents' draft in transit	120,000.00
Military contribution	44,749.51
Deposits not available	431,471.37
Refund of taxes	42,000.00
Officers' remittances	153.60
Money Order Remittances	15,447.55
Transit Charges, General Post Office	11,000.00
Civil pensions	23,000.00
Police pensions	16,000.00
Suspense account	1,272.8
Public Works	69,515.61
Miscellaneous	12,224.00
Total Liabilities	\$749,034.01
Balance	\$ 66,900.88
	\$815,933.89

*Not including arrears of revenue amount to \$90,781.

INDIAN MONEY-LENDERS.

In the Summary (Supreme) Court on the 11th two Indian money-lenders sued two Chinamen for \$30 and \$25 respectively, lent on promissory notes. In one case it transpired that the debtor had been paying 120 per cent. for a long period.

Mr. Justice Wise gave judgment for \$2 a month payment without interest, remarking that he could not allow such exorbitant rates of interest to be charged; had the creditor charged a reasonable rate he would have given judgment for the full amount at once.

In the other case payment was ordered to be made at a similar rate, the circumstances turning out to be much the same.

DEPARTURE OF GENERAL GASCOIGNE.

After serving five years as General Commanding the Troops in Hongkong and China, H. E. Major-General Sir William Julius Gascoigne, K.C.M.G., left Hongkong yesterday and boarded the Pacific Mail s.s. *Siberia* sailed on the 16th inst. for home. At this time of day it is needless to dilate upon the services which Major-General Gascoigne has rendered in China. He occupied that important position during the troubles in the North and although he did not participate in the movements which led to the relief of the Peking Legations, upon him fell the brunt of the heavy administrative work that was essential to the proper equipment of the British Force which did service with the Allied Troops. For his eminent services in that respect General Gascoigne received the order of K.C.M.G. During his tenure of the command in Hongkong also General Gascoigne had to deal with the vexatious problem which presented itself when the New Territory was being taken over and the results achieved on that as on many other occasions when the military capabilities of the General Commanding were called upon, speak for itself. As an administrative officer too, General Gascoigne evinced powers that marked him as one of the most able and popular military Acting Governors that Hongkong has known. During Sir Henry Blaker's leave of absence in the coronation year the General administered the Government through a difficult period in a manner that left nothing to be desired; so that his going away may be truthfully said to be regretted by both the military and civil community of Hongkong.

When His Excellency General Gascoigne accompanied by Lady Gascoigne and Major H. W. Trefusis, A.D.C., arrived at the Blake Pier on the 15th inst. to take his departure there was a crowd of many thousands present to see him off and wish him God-speed. A guard of honour of the Sherwood Foresters (and band) under the command of Captain Greene, D.S.O., was drawn up in front of the pier and when the General and suite appeared on the scene the general salute was given. Among those assembled to bid good-bye to the General were Colonel Brown, C.R.E.; Colonel Webb, P.M.O.; Colonel Wyllie, S.F.; Colonel Candy, 14th Bombay Infantry; Colonel Farrier, A.P.C.; Colonel Birdwood, 10th Bombay Infantry; Colonel the Rev. E. J. Hardy; Colonel Lambing; R.A.M.C.; Major Chichester; Major Bunney, A.O.C.; Major Pritchard, H.K.V.C.; Major Chapman, H.K.V.C.; Major Dopping Hippesall, R.E.; Major Bryan, R.G.A.; Major Ormiston, R.G.A.; Major Hamilton, Chief Staff Officer; Major Baker Brown, R.E.; Captain Fitzwilliams, A.S.C.; Captain Hurley, 33rd Burma; Lieut Armstrong, K.K.V.C.; Lieut. Canfield, 10th Bombay; Lieut. Northcote, H.K.V.C.; Captain Brown; Sir Paul Chater, C.M.G.; Right Rev. Bishop Hoare; Right Rev. Bishop Piazzoli; Hon. Dr. Ho Kai; Commodore Robinson, Naval Yard; Hon. F. H. May, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary; Hon. W. Chatham, Director of Public Works; Hon. A. M. Thomson, Colonial Treasurer; Hon. R. Murray Rumsey, Harbour Master; Hon. Gershom Stewart, Chev. Volpicelli, Consul-General A. G. Romano, His Honour A. G. Wise, Puisne Judge; Hon. C. W. Dickson, Hon. Dr. J. M. Atkinson, P.C.M.O.; Mr. L. A. M. Johnston, Postmaster-General; Mr. R. F. Johnston, Clerk of Councils; Mr. J. J. Leiria, Vice-Consul for Brazil; Mr. E. A. Hewett, Mr. C. A. Tomes, Mr. N. A. Siebs, Mr. T. Morgan Phillips, Mr. H. N. Moyle, Mr. A. Turner, Mr. J. Goosmann, Mr. Murray Baird Dr. Stedman, and many others.

After General and Lady Gascoigne had bade good-bye to their many friends on the pier they boarded the launch *Tommy Atkins* and went round the Harbour. From the *Tamar*, the *Leviathan*, and other warships in the harbour salutes were fired as the *Tommy Atkins* passed, and the colours were dipped. At Kowloon wharf the Bombays and Burmas were drawn up in line with bands and as the General's launch passed the men raised three, rousing cheers for the departing General. Afterwards the *Tommy Atkins* proceeded to the *Siberia* and the company boarded the liner.

When the General's party arrived on board the *Siberia* the following message was signalled from the *Tamar*:- "Navy wishes General good-bye; pleasant voyage home."

On board the *Siberia* tea was served to General Gascoigne's party and friends, of whom a large party accompanied him on board. Later on a parting supper took place, and the guests took farewell of General and Lady Gascoigne for the last time in Hongkong. The *Siberia* was sailed early on the 16th inst.

Major the Hon. H. W. F. Trefusis, the General's A.D.C., also leaves by the *Siberia*.

DEPARTURE OF COMMANDER MURRAY RUMSEY.

Commander R. Murray Rumsey, R.N., I.S.O., left for home on Friday, on the s.s. *Sumatra*, after nearly twenty years' service in the Harbour Department of Hongkong. As we reported in yesterday's issue, H. E. the Governor made a flattering allusion to Commander Murray Rumsey's services to the Colony, when bidding him good-bye at the Legislative Council on Thursday. Commander Murray Rumsey came out to Hongkong in January of 1883 as Assistant Harbour Master, in succession to Captain Thomsett, who occupied the position of head of the Harbour Department. When Captain Thomsett resigned in May, 1888, Commander Murray Rumsey was appointed his successor, and since that time he has held the post. During his term of office he has been for ten years a member of the Legislative Council and for seven years a member of the Executive Council.

While never going for himself the name of being an Harbour Master popular in any sense of the term, Commander Murray Rumsey was universally recognised as a hard-working and most capable official. Under his rule the Department was administered most excellently, and many reforms and improvements beneficial to shipping were introduced and fostered by him. It was he who first suggested the project of a bridge across the Harbour to Kowloon as a solution of the housing and water-supply questions that trouble the island of Hongkong; and if, as His Excellency suggested at the Council, that bridge should ever become a reality, its inception will always be connected with Commander Murray Rumsey's name.

KWANGSI FAMINE FUND.

We received on the 17th inst. a copy of Mr. Gershom Stewart's report of work done by the Kwangsi Famine Relief Fund. Attached to this as appendices are seven reports by Mr. C. Clementi, one by the Rev. J. E. Fee, one by Mr. A. G. M. Fletcher, one by Dr. H. K. Shumaker, one by the Rev. C. A. Gaff, and letters and telegrams from H.E. Sir Henry Blake, H.E. the Viceroy of the Two Kwang, various Chinese officials, and the Conference of the Christian and Missionary Alliance. We publish below the accounts of the Fund:-

EXPENDITURE.		\$	c.
4,92 bags rice	\$36,017.74		
Boat hire, freight, transshipping charges, &c.	2,547.21		
Payment to Rev. J. E. Fee for purchase of rice	550.00		
Payment to Magistrate at Kweishun for purchase of 6,000 piculs maize	231.90		
Dollars shipped to Viceroy at Wuchow	6,500.00		
Freight, insurance and charges on shipment	40.79		
Donation to destitute children through Rev. J. E. Fee	200.00		
Payment to Rev. J. E. Fee for purchase of seed rice	500.00		
Presentation for assistance received	100.00		
Sundry payments by Mr. Fletcher	29.95		
Sundry payments by Rev. C. A. Gaff	51.20		
Balance in hand	45,768.80		
	370.88		
	\$47,439.68		
RECEIPTS.		\$	c.
Total amount of subscriptions received	\$47,087.78		
Freight refunded	47.00		
Interest on the account	4.90		
	47,139.68		
	\$47,139.68		
Balance in hand	\$370.83		

CAPTURE OF HONGKONG THIEVES IN CANTON.

A LONG CHASE.

On the 17th June Hon. Dr. J. M. Atkinson lost from his house at the Peak jewelry worth \$1,000. Information was lodged with the Police and the work of enquiry was undertaken by the Detective Department, under Chief Inspector Hanson, and has just been carried out to a successful conclusion. At the time of the robbery suspicion fell upon a boy who had left the employment of Dr. Atkinson. A description of him was circulated and every effort was made by detectives and the Police generally to locate the thief. Latterly he was traced to Macao, but had already left there and so eluded capture. Since that time Hongkong Chinese detectives in conjunction with the Chinese authorities (acting at the request of the British Consul at Canton) have been tracking the thief all around the country between Macao and Canton in the Sanui District where his mother was known to reside, the pursuers being sometimes close at his heels but yet unable to effect his capture. At length however the chase was rewarded. Informers who had been carefully instructed succeeded in arresting the boy on Sunday, the 6th inst., at Canton, just as he was stepping on board a boat to be off once more in his efforts to elude his pursuers. He was handed over to Captain Yeung of the Shamoen Guard and will be tried and punished in Canton.

The stolen articles of jewelry numbered in all twelve. Of these three were found in his possession. Further investigation showed that other two had been pawned in the Shuntak district, the pawn-tickets being found on the thief's person. Five more of the stolen articles were recovered intact in two shops in Canton. The remaining two had been melted down, but they also were traced.

Such a recovery of stolen property from China must rank as an almost unprecedented thing in the Police records of Hongkong and other coast ports; and it certainly says a great deal for the zeal and ability of Mr. Hanson and his European and Chinese staff.

ANOTHER SMART CAPTURE.

On 5th July, while Mr. Frank Browne, the Government Analyst, was attending the evening church service, his house coolie cleared out with eleven articles of jewelry to the value of between £28 and £29. Mr. Browne reported the matter to the Police and gave a description of the man and of the stolen articles. The Police followed this up and with the aid of informers the thief was arrested in Canton. Of the eleven stolen articles nine were traced and recovered either entire or melted down, leaving only two rings, valued at £8, unaccounted for. In this case also the Detective Department are to be congratulated on the success which attended their labours.

RUSSIA'S NEW MANCHURIAN DEMANDS.

The Peking correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News* telegraphed on the 12th inst. that the various articles of the latest Russian demand are as follows:—

1. Newchwang, Fenghuangsheng, Shahotsai, and Liaoyang shall be evacuated immediately. Kirin, Itungchou, Kwanchengtze, and Talaichiao shall be evacuated in four months' time; Niuguta, Ajubo, Tsitsihar, and Hailar shall be evacuated in a year's time.

2. Landing-places and telegraphic communication shall be established on the river Sungari, and guarded by Russian soldiers.

3. Military posts shall be established between Tsitsihar and Blagovestchensk.

4. Manchuria shall never be transferred or leased to any foreign country.

5. The branches of the Russo-Chinese Bank shall be guarded by Chinese troops, whose expenses shall be defrayed by the Bank in question.

6. No duties heavier than those imposed at present shall be imposed on Russian merchandise imported into Manchuria by rail.

7. Russian officials shall have control of all sanitary matters in Manchuria.

ANOTHER DARING ROBBERY IN HONGKONG.

LADY BOUND AND GAGGED.

One of the most daring robberies we have heard of for a long time in the Colony occurred on Wednesday afternoon, the victim being Miss Bateman, an assistant mistress in Belilios School, who resides at 18, Belilios Terrace. It appears that on Tuesday a Chinaman brought to the house a chit and directed the amah to take it to her mistress. Miss Bateman could not recognise that the chit was intended for her, the writing on the envelope being undecipherable, and returned it. On Wednesday, shortly after tiffin, the same chit was brought to her again. Miss Bateman, it should be mentioned, had been indisposed for some days, and at the time of the delivery of the chit was lying on her couch. Just as she was in the act of opening the envelope, a young Chinaman entered the room, and was quickly followed by five others. Both Miss Bateman and the amah were immediately seized by the robbers, who tightly bound them hand and foot, gagged them, and tore up a tablecloth to cover the faces of the helpless victims of their violence. The man who held Miss Bateman to the couch gripped her tightly by the throat, as though to choke her, and the marks still on the lady's neck plainly testify to the extreme violence used by her assailant. Miss Bateman had a small terrier chained to its kennel on the verandah. One of the robbers released the dog, brought it into the room, and held it so that it was unable to bark. Meanwhile, the others of the gang secured all the jewelry they could lay their hands on. They took from Miss Bateman the gold-rimmed spectacles and the ring she wore, and two gold rings were also taken from the amah's fingers. Evidently the thieves knew something of Miss Bateman's habits, as one made for her jewel case, which was kept in a particular corner in the wardrobe, while another secured her keys and overturned the contents of a camphor-wood box, in order to secure some articles of jewelry which Miss Bateman was in the habit of keeping there. They appeared to know just where to lay their hands on the jewelry in the room, and were consequently speedy in their operations. As soon as they had secured their booty they decamped, leaving no clue to their identity behind, excepting an old pair of slippers and the tassel of a queue. When they had disappeared, Miss Bateman and the amah succeeded in releasing their bonds, and promptly made a report to the police who are now endeavouring to trace the robbers.

This is one of the most daring daylight robberies that have ever taken place in the Colony. Miss Bateman says the robbers appeared to be "boys." Apparently they knew Miss Bateman was sick, and they laid their plans accordingly. Miss Bateman was severely handled by the gang, and was much shaken by the occurrence. The amah suffered a loss of two of her teeth, but both the amah and Miss Bateman managed to bite the fingers of the men who gagged them.

It may be mentioned in this connection that this is the second time Miss Bateman has been victimised by robbers. Some time ago a house boy stole \$80 and decamped, and though she was able to furnish to the police adequate particulars for his identification, and to give the name of his native village, whither he had probably gone with the money, the thief was never brought to justice; Miss Bateman is naturally inclined to think that there may be some connection between this fact and the outrageous affair we now record. Unfortunately, neither Miss Bateman nor the amah recognised any member of the gang.

We learn, however, that this "chit" dodge was tried at several other houses in Belilios Terrace, and it ought not therefore to be difficult to obtain a description of at least one man. We trust that the police will succeed in tracking down this gang, and that exemplary punishment will be meted out to them, such as will be likely to deter others from enriching themselves by similar outrageous methods.

OTHER ROBBERIES.

We are informed that on Thursday another house robbery was added to the list of robberies that have taken place of late. A robber entered a house at the corner of Hollywood Road and Shelley Street, by means of a storm-pipe and secured \$60 or \$70 worth of jewelry, with which he made off. The police have the matter in hand.

A Dairy Farm coolie who was returning to Pokfulam on Thursday night was also set upon by a gang of Chinese and robbed. In this case also the police are making investigations.

THE TRANS-SIBERIAN BREAKDOWN.

A correspondent who left Shanghai recently on the *Lienshing*, vice the *Mongolia* in quarantine, intending to make the journey homeward via Siberia, writes to the *N.-C. Daily News* from Kobe under date of 6th September with a record of the experiences which eventually landed him there. Arriving on the 31st August at Chafoo, where the regatta was in full swing, he found after some time a steamer going across to Dalny. On getting his ticket he was told that the Siberian train had met with an accident; a bridge had given way near Liaoyang, with a train on it, and lives had been lost, but no other particulars were to be had. The correspondent proceeded and arrived next morning at Dalny. At the hotel he found English very imperfectly understood, but at the railway station was a "proper English-speaking Russian business man," who said great damage had been done by the rains and floods, did not mention the bridge, but when questioned admitted the collapse to be a fact and that lives had been lost. He stated they were quite unable to learn the extent of the damage as all the wires were down, and that passengers might have to wait eight days or perhaps a month. Thereupon the correspondent availed himself of the offer of the skipper of a British tramp to take him down to Moji, and had a most interesting passage. From Moji he proceeded by train to Kobe to catch the *Doric*, as being the more certain way of attaining his object. The writer of the letter adds that the Dalny hotel was full, mostly of American trippers, all stranded and all making plans. He would have tried Vladivostock, had there been a steamer, but the only one going was similar to that in which he made the passage from Chafoo to Dalny. As these load coolies, the only way to travel in them is "to balance on the top of their deck-house, very uncomfortable for a long journey."

The Shanghai Agent to the Chinese Eastern Railway Co. Seagoing Steamship Service, has sent out the following notice:—

"The Company begs to notify the public that they have received telegraphic information from Dalny to the effect that the line between Dalny and Harbin, owing to the heavy rainfall, is broken up, and that direct communication between these two towns is interrupted. According to the latest report it will take about one week to put the line in order. In view of above and owing to all steamers being quarantined in Dalny, intended passengers home via the Siberian route are advised to proceed via Vladivostock, to which port the *C.E.R.S. Nonni* will be despatched on the 15th of this month. This steamer has splendid accommodation for fifty first-class passengers."

The breakdown in the passenger service does not imply an interruption of the mail. In point of fact mails are arriving from Russia as usual, the *N.-C. Daily News* records. The probable explanation is that the trains *de luxe* alone have been temporarily suspended while the ordinary train service is maintained, passengers and mail-bags, etc., being transferred from one train to another at the scene of the breakdown.

Measures for the encouragement of rice cultivation in Formosa are being undertaken with satisfactory results. Formosan rice is stated to be not inferior to Korean rice and the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, it is said, have commenced to import Formosan rice regularly into Japan.

CORRESPONDENCE.

KOWLOON ROADS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Kowloon, 10th September.

SIR,—May I call the attention of the P. W. D. through the columns of your valuable paper, to the disgraceful state of the roads at Kowloon? With the exception of that part of the road lying between the corner of Robinson Road and Elgin Road to the corner of Cameron Road and East Road, the P. W. D. do not seem to be aware that any other roads exist. The part of road mentioned seems to be a kind of reserve ground for a few coolies, for whom the P. W. D. cannot find any other work. They can be seen daily with a barrow of sand and a tamper, and are supposed to be repairing roads, under no supervision whatever. They lay the sand on the road and await a shower of rain to wash it off; then renew operations. Pathways and gutters to roads that have been in existence eight or nine years are still covered with wild undergrowth, and altogether the roads, pathways, and gutters are a standing disgrace to the P. W. D. and an eyesore and inconvenience to the resident and taxpayer. I earnestly invite the head of the Department to visit Kowloon and convince himself that such is the case. He should walk, and prepare himself for a muddy one, as to take a ricksha is almost an impossibility, except to be dragged along at snail's pace.—Yours, etc.,

S. W. MOORE.

THE LOW-LEVEL TRAMWAYS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
Hongkong, 14th September, 1903.

SIR,—May I ask, through your medium, whether there is any hitch in connection with the laying of the tram-lines between the Company and Government? It seems to me that things must have come to a dead-lock, since it is obvious there has been practically no progress for some months. Meantime the rickshas are cutting up the concrete on the track already laid, and the sides of the road are being cumbered with rails and other material rusting badly from exposure to the heavy rains. Personally I have no interest in the tramways and am not at all sure that they will prove an unmixed blessing; but, if we are to have them, and they ought to be a great help to locomotion, let us for goodness sake get on with them. Is everything to stagnate in this Colony?—Yours, etc.,

VOX.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND BUILDINGS ORDINANCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
Hongkong, 14th September.

SIR,—Allow me to bring to the notice of the public that the Powers that be are having great difficulty in carrying out the provisions of the above Ordinance. Take for instance the cubicle question, which was found on application to be too drastic and could not be applied without great modification; and now other sections have sprung up which are having the same effects.

The sections I refer to are section 140 and 175, No. 1 of 1903. Section 140 clearly states that every domestic building and every floor of a domestic building which is separately let for dwelling purposes, shall be provided with a kitchen area of not less than fifty square feet. Section 175 of the same Ordinance states that every domestic building shall be provided by the owner with an open space in the rear, by opening out in each storey one half of the entire space intervening between the principal room or rooms and the main wall at the back of such building as well as the corresponding portion of the roof, etc. Now this is all very well to say that every domestic building must have a kitchen area of not less than 50 square ft., but what about the buildings which have two or more kitchens? The kitchens used by Europeans are more than the specified requirements, and if the kitchen used by the servants of the same building is

less than 50 square feet it is illegal, as the law does not say that every kitchen shall be 50 square feet. Also as regards section 175 which will have an effect on section 140 No. 1, 1903. Ordinance No. 13 of 1901, section 55A, is identical with section 175 of the present Ordinance. Now in 1901, owners of property were forced at a great expense of over \$1,000,000 to comply with section 55A, No. 13, 1901, thereby making their existing kitchens half yard half kitchen, and reducing the space of the kitchen; and now the majority of Chinese dwellings have not a kitchen of fifty square feet. The majority of Chinese dwellings are at the present time in accord with section 175 and to encroach on the yard space to enlarge kitchen area would be illegal according to section 175. What is the remedy? Supposing owners of property were to put their hands in their pockets and pay another \$2,000,000 to architects and contractors, they can pull down and rebuild the cross-wall and this would make the habitable space of the house smaller. Now did any one ever see such nonsense in any civilised country? Notices are being served on every owner to comply with section 140; also notice on owners who were missed or passed under section 55A, No. 13, 1901. Now to comply with section 175 what is to be done for the betterment of sanitation and overcrowding in this colony when we have such laws rushed through which look on first sight feasible, but on application cannot be enforced without great hardship to the property-owners who, after complying with a law passed two years ago, are waking up to find that what they spent then by order of the Government was useless and is all wrong. Who will pay for this? I say the Government should pay. What should be done in this Colony is to let the existing buildings, passed and approved by the P. W. D. and S. B. stand as they are, and that every new building should comply with the new Ordinance. Of course section 140 of Ordinance No. 1 of 1903 says exemption can be granted by the Building Authority, but it is very seldom granted, and it is no use owners trusting on getting that exemption, as it has been already refused to owners on several occasions.—Yours, etc.,

STONEWALL.

MAJOR-GENERAL GASCOIGNE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
Hongkong, 16th September.

SIR,—Your leading article of this morning mentioned the many kind acts of Major-General Gascoigne which made him one of the most popular of Generals who have come to Hongkong, but you have forgotten to state that it was due to Major-General Gascoigne's thoughtful disposition that we are having weekly performances of military bands on the Parade Ground which, although given but once a week, serve to enliven a little the even tenor of our life in Hongkong. That these performances are much appreciated by the public was evidenced by the large concourse of people at the Parade Ground last Monday. Apart from the attractions offered by the combined bands, as it was the last appearance there of General Gascoigne, a large gathering turned out to testify their appreciation of this act of kindness. Now that he is gone, I hope that his successor will follow in his footsteps, and continue to allow the bands to play as hitherto.—Yours, &c.,

MUSIC.

CRUELTY TO ANIMALS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
Hongkong, 16th September.

SIR,—Allow me through the medium of your valuable paper to bring to the notice of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals an instance of gross cruelty to a dog practised by a *lukong*. The man was dragging along the streets to the Police Station an apparently stray dog, and the poor animal was struggling and suffering a good deal. I agree that stray dogs must be got rid of, but by all means do so without causing suffering to the poor beasts. The present system of the police here for catching stray dogs—a rattan noose at the end of a long bamboo pole—is ridiculous and I

would commend it to the notice of the Society to condemn this system and get the Police authorities to adopt some other means for catching these dogs which will cause no unnecessary suffering to the poor animals. The ignorant and over-zealous *lukongs* cannot be allowed to carry on these gross acts of cruelty, and I hope that this letter of mine will be the means of checking if not of altogether putting a stop to these abuses.—Yours, &c.,

A LOVER OF DOGS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
Hongkong, 17th September.

SIR.—I beg leave to ask you for a small space in your valuable paper to corroborate the statement of your correspondent "A Lover of Dogs" in your issue of this morning. These acts of cruelty have been carried on with impunity for the last two days in various parts of the Colony, and I am surprised that they are allowed, or even sanctioned, in a British colony. If a poor Chinese coolie were to carry a fowl with its head downward, he would be run in by the police for cruelty. If the police want to rid the Colony of all undesirable curs that infest the streets, let them copy the system adopted by the Shanghai Municipality, who generally know how to do things better.

I trust that the S.P.C.A. will take the matter up.—Yours, &c.,

CANIS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
Hongkong, 18th September.

SIR,—May I add yet another claim to the protection of our "Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals" in the shape of a plea for the much maligned but useful cat. The number of these animals that are daily set adrift through sheer carelessness of their owners is a large one, and as an instance, I may mention that I have for some weeks past fed a Siamese tabby, which is still unclaimed? True it is that Pussy has a penchant for ransacking the contents of meat-safes at times, and at certain seasons of the year when in quest of a mate, she advertises the fact in terms more forcible than endearing, but after all, she sins no more in this respect than the rest of her sex. Taken all round, and given proper treatment, Pussy is beyond doubt a valuable adjunct to every household, and as such possesses strong claims to be looked after.

By the way, in speaking of cruelty, do the malarial mosquito and the plague-infected rat (let alone bugs) come in for any consideration at all? It is high time that something should be done to check Governmental abuse of this sort once and for ever—anything more idiotic it would be difficult to imagine.—Yours, etc.,

PUS3.

SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS.

With reference to the recently formed Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals there seems to be a general impression, more especially amongst the ladies of the colony, that membership in this society must necessarily entail the possible annoyance of attendance at the Police Court for the purpose of giving evidence against persons accused of cruelty. We are asked to state that the primary object of the society is not prosecution, but rather the suppression of cruelty to all dumb animals by the educating of the ignorant by example and precept, and in this way the ladies of the colony can very greatly assist the society both by teaching their children to be kind to animals, and in seeing that their servants do not abuse them. The hope of the promoters of the society is that, under ordinary conditions, prosecution need only be resorted to in gross and flagrant cases. Every individual is able to give the society a helping hand and it is greatly to be hoped that those who have hesitated to enroll themselves as members from a reluctance to Police Court appearances will now do so. We would further say that it will, in most cases, be sufficient to inform the police of instances of cruelty coming under anyone's observation, and they will then undertake the proper means for bringing the culprit to punishment.

SUPREME COURT.

Monday, 14th September.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR A. G. WISE
(PUISNE JUDGE).

CHINA LIGHT AND POWER CO., LD.

Mr. M. W. Slade, barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. J. Scott Harston of Messrs. Ewens & Harston, solicitors), appeared in support of a petition under the Companies Ordinance of 1877 and 1886 for the confirmation of a special resolution reducing the capital of this Company from \$300,000 to \$150,000.

His Lordship granted the petition, and ordered the necessary advertisements to be made.

The Court adjourned.

Wednesday, 16th September.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR A. G. WISE
(PUISNE JUDGE).

A BISMARK AND CO. CASE.

A case was called in which Kwong Sui Hing, Kwong Kam Chuen, Lau Chung Ming and Tang Pui Chung alias Pui Ching Tong, trading under the name of the Hop Shing Tong, sued Kwok Chui Hin, 18, Connaught Road Central, claiming from the defendant the sum of \$1,000 due on a promissory note given by the defendant to the plaintiffs and dated 31st May, 1903. This was a test case on the decision of which the payment or otherwise of several other promissory notes depended. Mr. M. W. Slade, barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. E. J. Grist of Messrs. Wilkinson & Grist, solicitors), appeared for the plaintiffs and Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. G. K. Hall Brutton, solicitor), was for the defence.

Mr. Slade in his opening statement said that the plaintiffs were partners with the defendant in the business known as Bismark & Co. or otherwise as the Man Wo. That business was carried on here in Hongkong, with a branch at Port Arthur. Plaintiffs were sleeping partners; they took no part in the management either of the Hongkong or the Port Arthur businesses, which were entirely under the control of the defendant. For some time past the plaintiffs had been dissatisfied with the way in which the defendant had carried on the business and in particular with the absence of accounts from the Port Arthur branch. At the end of last year some time in October a fire occurred in the Port Arthur premises of the firm and in due course, in November or December, the insurance company concerned paid to the defendant the sum of \$115,000. About the same time the defendant was pressing the partners in Hongkong for more funds, and they not unnaturally wanted some of the liabilities of the firm to be paid out of the \$115,000, of which they never got any part, and in the course of the discussions that ensued the defendant told the partners that the value of the Port Arthur business was \$60,000 and he could realise that amount for it. In the early part of the present Chinese year it was agreed that the defendant should take over the Port Arthur business while the plaintiffs kept on the Hongkong business. Then came a discussion as to the price which should be paid the defendant for the Port Arthur business, giving, of course, credit for the value of the Hongkong business. Basing their estimate on that given by the defendant, and making him a liberal allowance, the plaintiffs asked \$35,000 for the Port Arthur business. Defendant offered \$20,000. After long negotiations between the parties, plaintiffs came down to \$30,000 and defendant went up to \$25,000. At that stage the negotiations were stopped for some time. The partners pressed him to pay \$30,000 and he said before he did so he must telegraph up to Port Arthur and enquire as to the value of the business. Later he told the firm that they had better telegraph themselves. They did so, asking what the value of the Port Arthur branch was. The reply to that was \$37,000.

Plaintiffs did not accept that as being anything like correct, but as it became obvious that they could not get more than the previous offer they closed at \$25,000 for the business in Port Arthur. Defendant paid \$2,000 in cash as part payment and bond. Of the sum of \$25,000, \$1,000 was to be paid in cash and the remainder made up in various ways. A few days later defendant said he could not pay cash; would they accept his promissory notes for \$9,000, the balance of the \$11,000? Plaintiffs agreed and these notes were put into writing and drawn up and signed in the presence of all the parties on the 30th May. Now defendant repudiated the notes on the ground of want of consideration. He had had the business since May, and now he wanted to avoid payment. Evidence was taken for the plaintiff.

Mr. Pollock submitted that the time of payment stipulated in the documents had been altered by the plaintiffs without the consent of the defendant, and at present it was only an acknowledgment of what was to be due to the plaintiffs upon taking the accounts of the Port Arthur business. They were not promissory notes.

Defendant and other witnesses having been called.

Evidence in support was given by Mr. Brutton, the defendant, and the Court translator, and Mr. Pollock having addressed the Court on the facts of the case, Mr. Slade replied.

His Lordship reserved judgment.

Thursday, 17th September.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR A. G. WISE
(PUISNE JUDGE).

PARTNERSHIP CASE.

Evidence was again heard in the action in which Wong Wa Po sought to prove that Tang Kai Chug was a partner in the Wing Chan firm, 22 Circular Pathway, the case arising out of a judgment given on May 29th for \$150. A claim had been heard before the Land Court in respect to property sold by the defendant to the plaintiff, and during the hearing of that claim it was alleged, defendant described himself to the Land Court as being the master of the Wing Chan shop.

Mr. T. Morgan Phillips, barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. P. W. Goldring, of Messrs. Deacon and Hastings, solicitors), was for the plaintiff, and Mr. M. W. Slade, barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. E. A. Bonner, of Messrs. Denny and Bowley, solicitors) for the defendant.

His Lordship found that the defendant was not a partner in the Wing Chan shop.

The Court adjourned.

Friday, 18th September

IN CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR WILLIAM M.
GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE).

THE CALENDAR.

There were down for hearing 15 cases involving 22 persons, including Curt Vincenz, the German charged with shooting a chair-coolie.

CASES DISCHARGED.

Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C., barrister-at-law, who appeared on behalf of the Attorney-General Hon. Sir Henry S. Berkeley (instructed by Mr. H. Hursthouse, Acting Crown Solicitor), stated that in the cases in which Pan Kun was charged with forgery and an Indian constable, Mola Singh, with perjury, the Attorney-General had decided, after careful consideration of the evidence given at the Police Court, that there was not sufficient evidence on which to file an information.

His Lordship ordered the accused to be discharged.

ALLEGED LARCENY OF CORRESPONDENCE.

A case was called in which Chun Yuk Lun was charged with larceny of correspondence. Accused failed to appear.

His Lordship said he supposed there was a bail-bond. What was it?

Mr. Sharp said there was a bond for \$2,000 and \$00 in cash.

His Lordship sent for Mr. Looker, the solicitor who had charge of the defence when the accused was before the Police Court, and asked him what were the circumstances under which the bail was granted.

Mr. Looker said he applied for bail and got it.

His Lordship—He got bail and you had nothing more to do with it?

Mr. Looker—No, your Lordship; he got bail and was remanded.

His Lordship—And you had nothing more to do with it?

Mr. Looker—Yes; he asked me to instruct counsel and I got the depositions. When I sent for him three or four days ago I was asked if I could guarantee to get him off, and I told him not to talk nonsense, and I have heard nothing further about it.

His Lordship—I suppose we may assume that the man has gone away?

Mr. Looker—I think it is exceedingly probable. I am told that he left deeds at the Magistracy.

His Lordship ordered a Bench warrant to be issued for the apprehension of the accused and the bail to be escheated.

"A MURDEROUS ASSAULT."

Chan Loi, a young Chinaman, and Wong Fung, his mother, were charged with having on 5th August, at New Kowloon, assaulted the first prisoner's wife, Li Sam Mui, and wounded her with intent to do grievous bodily harm.

They pleaded not guilty.

The following jury was empanelled:—Messrs. E. J. Moses, F. A. Chopard, G. Humphries, W. H. Watson, N. G. Majer, K. D. Mistry, and W. F. Muat.

Mr. Sharp in opening the case said the prisoners were charged with having committed an assault of a very murderous character, and he thought they were very fortunate, considering the nature of the assault, in not being there on the more serious charge of murder. The male prisoner had been married for about seven years to the complainant. The household did not appear to have been a happy one, and both prisoners were apparently on bad terms with the complainant. The man frequently absented himself from home for a very considerable period. On the 5th of last month he returned home early in the morning from one of those absences and a conversation ensued between the two prisoners in the presence of the woman who was subsequently assaulted, but who heard only a part of it. The last words apparently spoken in that conversation were uttered by the man, who said to his mother, "If you do not want her" (the wife) "I do not." Thereupon the man seized a chopper and attacked his wife, with the assistance of his mother, who held her while he assaulted her. In the assault committed upon her, the wife was severely wounded, three of the toes of one foot being cut off, her right leg injured, and there were other injuries as well. As a result he understood the woman would be lame for life. Fortunately she managed to escape and run into the Police Station close by and was taken to the Government Civil Hospital, where she lay for some weeks unable to give evidence owing to the serious character of her injuries. Both prisoners had made statements which suggested that jealousy was the cause of the crime. The wife said this was unfounded, and that she had never heard any suggestion of the kind before the assault. And supposing that to have been so, his Lordship would tell the jury that in law it was no excuse for committing the assault.

Evidence was taken.

His Lordship having summed up,

The jury returned an unanimous verdict of guilty against both prisoners.

His Lordship, addressing the male prisoner, said he had been guilty of a very brutal assault. The maximum penalty for the offence of which he had been found guilty was imprisonment for life. His Lordship was not going to impose the full penalty, taking into consideration the ignorance of his early upbringing. This was a very bad case, and the sentence would be two years' imprisonment with hard labour and 24 strokes of the birch within the first week. The woman was sentenced to 12 months' imprisonment with hard labour.

The Court adjourned.

NOTES FROM THE BOTANIC GARDENS.

One of the prettiest of Hongkong orchids may now be seen in flower growing around the tank just outside the No. 1 house. This is *Arundina chinensis*, a grass-like plant when not in flower but exceedingly striking at this time of the year. The plant grows to a height of two or three feet and is often found thriving on rocks near watercourses. The flowers, which are white with a mauve tip, are produced at the ends of the shoots, and as there is a succession of these for two or three months, it is a good plant to have in a garden.

Hibiscus lambertianus thrives remarkably well in Hongkong, where it makes a bush of at least 10 or 12 ft. high and as many feet through. It is in flower almost the whole year round and as the flowers are red and several inches across they make a brilliant show in any garden even at the dulles time of the year. The species is a native of South America.

Another useful shrub and one that is nearly always in flower is *Rondeletia odorata*, a native of Cuba and Mexico. It makes a bush about 6 ft. high and has crimson flowers which are abundantly produced in small clusters at the ends of the branches. A bush may be seen in flower in the shrubbery near the bandstand.

The rainfall since the 9th of September has been 6.72 inches, making a total of 21.37 inches for the month to date, which is more than double the average fall for this month. The fall for the year to date is 90.78 inches.

H.E. VICEROY SHUM.

The *N-C Daily News* mentions a rumour recently circulating in mandarin circles in Shanghai to the effect that a powerful coalition of conservatives of the most bigoted type in Peking is being formed with the object of causing the downfall of H. E. Tsên Ch'un-hsün (Viceroy Shum). There is an attempt to identify H. E. with the Reform Party in order to secure his ruin more easily with the Empress Dowager, well knowing her enmity against, and almost morbid fear of all Reformers. The conspiracy is said to be all the more serious owing to the fact of many of the Hunanese party in the Empire holding a grudge against H. E. for his part in securing the disgrace of their fellow provincial, the notorious Ex-Governor Wang Chih-chun of Kwangsi. The more enlightened of the Hunanese element fortunately do not, however, hold such bigoted views, and give willing credit to the ability and strong mind of H. E., who is generally conceded by a large portion of Chinese officialdom as the only man available to deal with the crisis in the South, and one who is also respected by foreigners who know anything about His Excellency as a man, and the difficult task before him of bringing order out of chaos and securing the will-o-the-wisp malcontents who swarm in one part of Kwangsi at one moment and then are gone no one knows where, whenever a decently armed and respectable force of Government troops appears in their neighbourhood. On the other hand, of course, these malcontents are anything but ethereal or unsubstantial whenever they see that the "braves" patrolling the countryside are anything like the name they bear and who deserve the attention of these rebel bands only when they come provided with good firearms and a quantity of modern ammunition, which would be particularly acceptable to their warlike stores. Then these will-o-the-wisps combine, surround the braves in some kind of ambush and, after decimating the lot, capture their arms and ammunition while allowing the remainder to go their ways to give whatever terrifying news of the rebels they care to tell their superior officers, who are generally comfortably and safely ensconced within the walls of some strong and populous city. The enemies of H. E. Tsên knowing only the superficial aspect of matters in Kwangsi, one and all think that they can do all the Viceroy has done—and more too. But as far as we can see, jealousy and suspicion of H. E.'s future rôle in respect to them are at the bottom of the reported conspiracy against him, as they feel that by the way he has dealt with men like these enemies of his, under him, once his power should extend, they would have small

chance of comfort in their official life. Further, we are sorry to learn by a recent despatch from Hsünch-w, H. E.'s headquarters, that H. E. has through overwork and worry—he insists on personally dealing with all matters within his jurisdiction and nothing is too insignificant for his attention—fallen ill and has been confined to his room for several days. This news will doubtless cause gladness to many a dishonest mandarin in the two Kwang provinces. Finally, a telegram received from Peking states that the ball has already commenced to roll and that some one has denounced H. E. in a secret memorial to the Throne. Fortunately the Emperor refused to allow the thing to go beyond the Grand Council and the document was therefore laid on the table.

NEW TERRITORY NOTES.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

SNIPES.

To sportsmen who contemplate the coming to the New Territory for snipe-shooting this week end, my advice is "Don't." They will only waste their time and patience looking for snipe, which are as scarce this year as they have been numerous in former years. There has scarcely been a dry day for over a month. The paddy flats are full of water, and what few snipe there are do not frequent the usual haunts but resort to higher and drier patches.

AGRICULTURE.

Farmers this year are grumbling at the excess of rain, as they grumbled last year at want of it. The peanut-crop, which will soon be ready for raising, is likely to suffer from the prolonged rain. Peanuts favour a dry sandy soil, and the excessive rain is likely to damage a crop that promised a good return.

The sugar-cane crop is better this year than for the past three years. The variety of cane grown, however, is of very poor quality, and cannot be compared with the sugar-cane imported from Singapore. The improved sugar-cane grown from the Government free samples given to certain farmers forms only a small percentage of the crop.

Large quantities of the indigo plant are grown by the Hakkas, and just now is being largely sold in Simchum Market. This plant grows to a height of three to four feet, and has small dark-green leaves.

CANTON.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

Canton, 10th September.

A NEW ADMIRAL.

The Imperial Navy in Cantonese waters is now no longer under the command of Liu Wên Ching, the Admiral Le Bu of Foochow fame, who saved his ship from the French in 1885. Liu is in the Viceroy's opinion too old for active service, and his familiar figure is no longer to be seen on his torpedo-boat in the harbour. When he retired—about six weeks ago—one Chên Ping Wei, who had, in conversation with the Viceroy, made suggestions on naval matters which won the latter's approval, was appointed in his stead. One month of service, however, was sufficient to prove Chen's unfitness, and now Shum has made a characteristic appointment.

The man on whom Le Bu's robe has permanently fallen is Kiu Tzu Fan, a native of Foochow. Kiu studied naval methods in Europe and America and the knowledge he acquired secured for him the post of Director of the Naval School at Whampoa. Later on he entered the Customs as a clerk, but he did not remain long in that service, and has now found his proper sphere. He is a relation of Chêng, who is now in supreme command of the troops in Kwangsi. Chêng has been lately promoted to the position of Expectant of the Metropolitan Court of the Fourth Rank. This appointment carries with it the right to memorialise the throne directly—a privilege which is not without advantages. His opportunity of distinguishing himself had come with the illness of General Fung, whose eighty years would unfit him for the field in any country but China.

SEVEN MAIDENS' FESTIVAL.

Last week the festival of the Seven Maidens was celebrated here. On that day Chinese girls place specimens of their handicraft on view in

the family drawing-room, hoping that the kindly goddess will bless them and increase the skill of the worker. These articles are very daintily made, and consist of models of furniture, lanterns, and other household utensils. Besides these, figures are made with sesamum seeds, which are cunningly joined together; the figures are placed in shrines and placed on a table, so that the neighbours may be able to admire them.

The legend on which this festival is based is that of the Bride, who on this night visits the Shepherd Boy in the Heavens. Her path lies across the Milky Way, and to enable her to cross this all the birds of the air assemble and fill up the vacant spaces. This is one of the most interesting and picturesque of Chinese legends.

Canton, 12th September.

POSSIBLE TROUBLES IN THE CITY.

Some time ago it was announced that the Tartar-General and the Acting Viceroy had memorialised the Throne about the unprotected state of Canton. The fright which the projected rising at the New Year gave them had evidently made a deep impression, and this has not lessened with the flight of time. The whole city has been in a startled state for the past day or two, for it is reported that the gates are to be closed earlier in the evenings until the return of the Viceroy—this step indicating that the fears of the officials have increased.

It seems that on this occasion there may indeed be some grounds for the evident alarm of the officials. On Monday next is celebrated the festival of the birthday of the City God—the *genius loci*. To this festival great crowds flock together from the countryside, and, as in ancient times at Jerusalem, a feast day is often the occasion of a tumult. The Sin Wong Temple, where the god is worshipped, is situated in the very centre of the old city, and is close to the yamens of the great officials, so that their fears are perhaps natural.

There are, however, two opinions on the question. Some say that the very fear manifested, and the closing of the gates at 5 (on Monday they are even to be closed at 2 p.m.) will only serve to excite the bad characters, who did not until now realise that they had an opportunity to cause trouble. On the other hand, it is said that the precautions taken are sufficient to keep back a mob without leaders or cohesion. How much truth there is in the story of the Triad Society's movements it is impossible to say, but all these rumours may have been set on foot by the enemies of Viceroy Shum.

At present there are about 1,000 soldiers in the city—men returned from Waichow, and some 500 armed police. The banner-men, who are a kind of reserve, number several thousands, but their arms have been sent to Kwangsi, and even they at their best resemble Falstaff's levies, though it is true that their opponents in a local rising would be no better armed.

On the whole, I think only the most nervous will have any qualms on Monday, but there is no doubt that the return of the Viceroy is anxiously expected, and will relieve the minds of the people. He is at present in poor health, and the bad news he has received will not tend to improve his condition. A defeat of the Cantonese troops by the rebels is officially announced, but no details are given. It is further reported that the tombs of the Viceroy's ancestors at Sze Chêng Fu have been rifled by the rebels, and this news must be a severe blow to him.

[FROM ANOTHER CORRESPONDENT.]

Canton, 13th September.

SOLDIERS AND REBELS.

It is stated from reliable official sources that H. E. Viceroy Shum will return to Canton by the end of this month. He will have to stay a long time in Kwangsi, and yet it is doubtful whether he will in the end be able to suppress the rebellion, for the rebels are no despicable foes. It is also stated that the Cantonese soldiers and the rebels are very friendly with each other. Whenever, for instance, the Cantonese soldiers were in need of opium they used to tie a piece of rag to a bamboo, and waving it in the air, signalled to the rebels what they

wanted; and the rebels, seeing it, sent opium to them in exchange for ammunition. It has been frequently the case that when the Cantonese soldiers were not well enough treated by their commanders they deserted to the rebels. It is also reported that in battle both the Cantonese troops and the rebels have fired their shots into the air, and after hours of sham fight no one has been killed or wounded on either side. Since the Viceroy went to Kwangsi, however, several prefectures have been lost to the rebels.

AN IMPUDE CHIEFTAIN.

One rebel chief, Wong Ng Fi by name, sent a letter to the Viceroy, of which the following is a free translation:—"To H.E. Shum,—We are well supplied with arms and ammunition, which your soldiers have been kind enough to send us as present. Being well supplied now you need not send us any more. If you wish to have a real fight with us, you will have to bring a hundred more of your battalions into the field, so as to have a decisive fight and see who is the stronger or weaker. But in consideration for the fact that your Excellency also belongs to the same native place as we do, and that the people of Canton expect us to accomplish our end and aim, we do not like to crush your army with our full force. We request your Excellency therefore to stop this expedition and go away at once; then we will show you a little consideration. Otherwise we cannot guarantee your excellency what our brethren will do." Upon receipt of this letter, the Viceroy was very angry and excited and at last, the story runs, fell sick and spat blood.

THE VICEROY'S MOVEMENTS.

Another reason which necessitates His Excellency's return is that in Canton in questions of serious importance, the local officials cannot take upon themselves to decide and they must wait till the Viceroy comes back. He is now in Looshow, where he does not intend to stay long. He will hand over the command of the entire army to generals Fung Pao-choi and Cheang Hou-sz to take charge of before he comes back.

TSINGTAO.

Tsingtao, 7th September.

THE PRISONERS' MOTIVY.

A combined attack was made last week by 22 native prisoners on a soldier named Lachman, who was set to guard them while they were at work. The men had been imprisoned together in one cell, and it is supposed that they took the opportunity to make their plans in concert. They formed part of a gang of 25, who were working down linked singly and under Lachman's charge. One of the 22 asked Lachman to look at his work and say whether or not it was properly done. As the unsuspecting soldier knelt down to do this, another prisoner struck him over the head with a shovel, rendering him unconscious. Two Chinese policemen were overpowered and tied up and then the whole 22 conspirators took to their heels. The other three prisoners were not in the plot. One of these went with information of the occurrence to the nearest police station and the other two carried the almost dead soldier into the neighbouring village of Syfang. Pursuit was made at once after the fugitives and the two ringleaders were caught the same day. Sergeant Andochowit captured one named Kuang who had armed himself with Lachman's rifle and made an attempt to use it. The other man, Li, was found asleep in a ravine by a Chinese constable. During the pursuit a third prisoner was shot and died from his wound, in prison. Kuang and Li were tried and sentenced to death. Yesterday they were executed in prison.

A WET MONTH.

August has not been an agreeable month. The mean temperature was 25 deg. (Reaumur), the highest 30 deg. and the lowest 20 deg. On 18 days it rained and 280 mm. fell during the month. Between five and six o'clock on the morning of the 10th 25 mm. of rain was measured and 107 mm. came down during the 24 hours of that day.

GOOD FOR MARINERS.

The lighthouse on Tialientan island will be in operation from the 12th inst.—N.C. Daily News.

SIR HENRY BLAKE'S APPOINTMENT TO CEYLON.

COLOMBO PRESS OPINIONS.

Colombo newspapers arriving by the German mail are naturally full of Sir Henry Blake's appointment as Governor of Ceylon. We select a few opinions from the papers which have reached us.

The *Times of Ceylon* has a leading article, mainly biographical. In the course of this it says:—"The appointment of Sir Henry Blake to the Governorship of Ceylon is remarkable chiefly because he is 63 years of age. When Sir Arthur Havelock retired from Ceylon, Sir Henry's name was mentioned, possibly because his term in Jamaica was about to expire; but Sir West Ridgeway came here, and when Sir Henry's twice-extended term in the West Indies came to an end he went to the Far East entrepot. As an explanation of the extended service now indicated, and as removing doubts as to His Excellency's ability to move about the remotest parts of Ceylon, we understand that he looks much younger than three-score years; that he is "as hard as nails"; and besides keeping up his riding as much as is possible in the confined colony of Hongkong, he is a good swimmer, and an athlete in every way. He is over six feet in height, and every inch counts in what a Governor should be! There has been considerable feeling at Hongkong because of pro-Chinese leanings which culminated in a memorial from the Chinese residents of Hongkong to the Secretary of State for an extension of Sir Henry Blake's term of office—a request which was not granted. We learn on good authority that Lady Blake was chiefly responsible for this; but, in any case, the new Governor's wife will have a sufficiently difficult task to successfully emulate the sympathetic and yet absolutely correct balance which Lady Ridgeway has observed in dealing with the leaders of the more numerous communities existing in Ceylon.

The *Ceylon Independent* says:—"The momentous question of who is to succeed Sir West Ridgeway as Governor of Ceylon is settled, and settled in a manner after our complete liking. Sir Henry Blake, the present Governor of Hongkong, is to be our new Governor. His name had been mentioned in connection almost with a score of others as in the running for the Ceylon Governorship. The rumour was ridiculed in some quarters. "Nonsense," said the critics, "it cannot be, look at his age, why he must be sixty if he is a day!" Sir Henry Blake is more: He will be 64 years of age on January 13, 1904. We have said that the appointment is much to our liking because from the information above it is clear that our new Governor is a distinguished man with no ordinary abilities and with great administration experience. It has been said that Sir Henry Blake's administration in Hongkong has not given complete satisfaction to an important section of the population as H. E. was in the habit of favouring the Chinese. We are inclined to think that this will not be regarded as altogether a displeasing trait by the bulk of the people of Ceylon. It bespeaks the possession of such admirable qualities as fairness and impartiality and, what is more, that quality, which is more an instinct than a gift, of being able to wield influences and command the enthusiastic sympathies of different sections of His Majesty's British subjects which so largely go to make up the Colonial Empire. The Secretary of State has not kept us long in doubt, and in selecting Sir Henry Blake, Mr. Chamberlain, it appears to us, has made an exceedingly wise choice.

The *Ceylon Standard* says that the announcement does not come in the nature of a surprise, and goes on to say:—"Sir Henry Blake bears the reputation of a ruler of great firmness. We question whether he is possessed of that business, or commercial, ability so distinguishable in Sir West Ridgeway, but Sir West is an exceptional Governor in this respect. It is open to doubt if in the whole of British Colonial Administration is to be found a Governor of the high commercial aptitude of him who is so soon to leave our shores. . . . Draconic firmness is that of Sir Henry Blake, but if firm he is equally just. Shilly-shallying, plentiful in Ceylon, will meet with short commons at his hands.

The new Governor comes into a goodly heritage. Sir West Ridgeway will hand over to him a Colony prosperous and contented. He will find on every hand signs of progress. Chiefest of all he will look to a future in which great things are to be accomplished. That he will sympathetically regard the progressive policy of our present Governor in such matters as railway extension, irrigation, spread of English education, development of the allied planting interests and development of the trade and commerce of the Island generally, we think we may take for granted. He will find it no easy matter to fill the rôle Sir West Ridgeway has so brilliantly filled for the last seven years. This will be recognised by all and on that account any mistakes he may commit, at the outset of his term as Governor of Ceylon, will find a large indulgence extended to them. The keynote of Sir West Ridgeway's rule has been "Progress." That must to be the keynote of the administration, not of Sir Henry Blake alone, but of all future Governors. The East and West are being brought daily closer together; and in time the influence of the West will be all powerful. There are some who openly deplore this fact, but the trend of events will not be influenced thereby. Sir West Ridgeway has ever guided his policy with a view to future conditions, and so doing has performed a work generations to come will reap the benefit of. Sir Henry Blake will continue that good work.

The *Times of Ceylon* mentions a curious report in the Courts at Colombo that Sir Henry Blake is a Roman Catholic.

THE OPIUM FARM.

It appears that the lease of the Opium Farm to the present holders has not been effected without some antagonism on the part of the syndicate who put in the second highest bid. As will be remembered, the last farm contract was fixed at the figure of about a quarter of a million dollars. When the tenders were opened this year for the tenure of the monopoly for the ensuing three years, the present farmers were found to be the highest offerers, but through some error or other the necessary guarantee was not attached to their offer. The next offer, which was very much less, was all in order. When the circumstances came to be looked into it was found that the highest offer had not technically complied with the requirements of the specification, yet in effect their compliance with such was held by the Governor in Council to have been ample and accordingly the contract was awarded to them. But the other tenderers doubted the legality of this and the result was that they consulted counsel and were assured of the legality of their title to the contract. However, when they went to put their counsel's opinion before the Government (which means the Colonial Secretary), they were met with the irrefutable statement that even although the present farmers' offer was not granted the next offer had no guarantee under the conditions of offer that his or any other offer would be accepted. Recognising the futility of contesting such a position, the next offerers have, we understand resolved not to fight the matter further.

It may be mentioned that the enormous increase in the price of the Opium Farm lease for the next three years will mean a very great rise in the price of that Chinese luxury, opium. During the period from 1886 to 1889 the price of opium was \$1 for 4 tael 2 mace; from 1889 till 1892, \$1 per 9 mace; from 1892 till 1898, \$1.20 per tael; from 1898 till 1901, \$1.50 per tael; and from 1901 till 1903, \$2 per tael.

We understand that under the conditions of the new lease the price of opium will advance to \$3 to \$3.50 per tael.

The newly-built German river gunboat *Tsingtau* last month finished its trials off Dantzic. The boat was to be taken to pieces, and sent out to China on one of the Lloyd steamers, and put together again there. The *Tsingtau* is destined for the Yangtze; as the gunboat draws 61 centimetres she will be able to go further up the river than can the *Vorwärts*, which draws 1½ metres.

HONGKONG COTTON SPINNING, WEAVING AND DYEING CO., LD.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The ordinary annual meeting of shareholders in the Hongkong Cotton Spinning, Weaving and Dyeing Co., Ltd. was held at the offices of the general managers, Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., on the 14th inst.

Hon. C. W. Dickson (chairman) presided, and there were also present Sir Paul Chater and Mr. A. G. Wood (consulting committee). Messrs. R. C. Wilcox, J. R. Michael, K. McK. Ross, W. J. Greson, C. H. Ross, Ho Fook, Lo Cheung Shiu, Ho Kom Tong, A. Shaw (manager), A. Brooke Smith (secretary), and others.

The notice calling the meeting been read,

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen,—The report and statement of accounts now before you having been in your hands for some days, I propose, with your assent, to take as read. The result shown is not so satisfactory as was at one time anticipated, owing mainly to a severe visitation of plague, which during April, May, and June claimed as victims a number of our most experienced operatives. The loss of those hands who had been at the mill since its commencement, interfered greatly with the production and is still to some extent handicapping the out-turn. Low exchange during the greater part of the year and the high price of cotton have also worked to our detriment. Our yarns, however, continue to be in good demand and, given normal conditions, I hope we may be able to show a better result during the current year. The erection of the 5,000 spindles referred to at our last meeting was completed early this year, but, owing to the plague, we have not yet benefited to the fullest extent from this addition. Since the beginning of May a number of our operatives have been accommodated in the quarters specially built for them and I am glad to say that so far the health of the occupants has realised expectations. Every precaution is, of course, being taken to keep the building in a sanitary condition. In view of the expenditure on account of these quarters and on additional plant the proposal to write \$35,000 off property account will doubtless commend itself to you. Before moving the adoption of the report and accounts I shall be pleased to answer any questions relating to them you may desire to put.

There were no questions.

The CHAIRMAN proposed that the report and accounts as presented be adopted and passed.

Mr. R. C. WILCOX seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

On the motion of Mr. Ho Fook, seconded by Mr. McK. Ross, the appointment of Mr. A. G. Wood in place of Mr. A. Haupt was confirmed, and with Sir Paul Chater he was re-elected to the consulting committee.

Mr. GRESSON proposed and Mr. C. H. Ross seconded, that Mr. W. Hutton Potts be re-elected auditor.

The motion was agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN—That is all the business, gentlemen. Dividend warrants will be ready on application to-morrow morning. Thank you for your attendance.

DOUGLAS STEAM-SHIP CO., LD.

The following is the report for presentation to the shareholders at the twentieth ordinary general meeting, to be held at the Offices of the Company, on the 26th September, at noon:—

After paying all running expenses, premia of insurance, remuneration of consulting committee and auditors' fees, there remains a net profit, including \$43,180.93 profit on sale of the s.s. *Formosa* of \$112,781.60, and with the consent of shareholders, it is proposed to appropriate this amount as follows:—

"To pay a dividend of 6 per cent. on the capital of the company, absorbing \$60,000.00, to transfer \$11,100.93 to reserve fund, which will then stand at \$185,000.00, and to write off the balance of \$41,680.67 from the values of the company's properties on the 30th June last."

The steamer *Formosa* was sold in June last at a fairly good price considering her age, and that she was now too small for general purposes.

During nearly the whole period under review we have had to contend with very depressed conditions of trade together with increasing competition, but we are pleased to report that the company still commands the esteem of shippers, and with a revival of trade, are quite confident of maintaining our position on the coast.

All the steamers of the company have undergone the usual annual Government survey, and are in efficient condition.

The amounts appearing as freights due and accounts receivable on 30th June have since been collected.

CONSULTING COMMITTEE.

Since last meeting, the Hon. C. S. Sharp and Hon. R. G. Shewan have resigned, the vacancies being filled by Messrs. A. G. Wood and C. A. Tomes. The committee now consists of the Hon. C. W. Dickson, Messrs. C. H. Thompson, A. G. Wood and C. A. Tomes, who all retire in terms of articles of association, but, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITORS.

The present accounts have been audited by Messrs. W. H. Potts and A. R. Lowe, who retire, but, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.,
General Managers.

The accounts are as follows:—

BALANCE-SHEET for the year ended 30th June, 1903.

LIABILITIES		\$	c.
Capital account:—20,000 shares at \$50...	1,000,000.00		
Reserve fund	173,899.07		
Underwriting account of the Company...	80,935.68		
Sundry accounts payable	47,127.19		
Unpaid dividends	189.00		
Unpaid bonus	138.00		
Profit and loss account	112,781.60		
	<u>\$1,415,070.54</u>		

ASSETS.		\$	c.
Value of the Co.'s Steamers:— <i>Haitan, Haiching, Haimun, Hailoong, Formosa, and Thales</i> , as per last report	\$1,020,000.00		
Less amount written off as resolved at last general meeting	\$37,000.00		
Less book-value of s.s. <i>Formosa</i> now sold	70,000.00		
	<u>107,000.00</u>		
	913,000.00		

Value of buoys and moorings at Swatow, Amoy, Tamsui & Hongkong, steam launch and wharf at Hongkong, as per last report	53,174.22		
Less sale of material	\$ 122.82		
Less amount written off as resolved at last general meeting	5,936.06		
	<u>6,058.88</u>		
	46,115.34		
Loans on mortgage	192,500.00		
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	152,670.70		
Freights due on 30th June, 1903	55,686.78		
Sundry accounts receivable from agencies, &c.	52,667.39		
Cash in hand	2,430.33		
	<u>\$1,415,70.54</u>		

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

For the year ended 30th June, 1903.		\$	c.
To dividend paid for year ending 30th June, 1902	60,000.00		
To amount written off for depreciation for year ended 30th June, 1902	42,936.06		
To exchange account	1,002.52		
To auditors' fees	600.00		
To remuneration to consulting committee for 12 months	2,000.00		
To remuneration to general managers for office expenses, for 12 months	10,000.00		
To balance	112,781.60		
	<u>\$229,320.18</u>		

		\$	c.
By balance of profit and loss account, 30th June, 1902	102,936.06		
By coal account	1,344.06		
By general interest account	1,262.31		
By interest on mortgages account	11,938.75		
By bonuses received	326.19		
By profit on sale of s.s. <i>Formosa</i>	43,180.93		
By profit on running the company's steamers during the year	68,331.06		
	<u>\$229,320.18</u>		

UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF CANTON, LD.

The following is the report for presentation to the shareholders at the thirtieth ordinary meeting to be held at the Society's Offices at noon on the 8th October:—

1902.

The net premium collected for the year, after deducting returns and reinsurances, amounts to \$4,024,793.61. After providing for a bonus of 20 per cent. on contributions paid in May last, there remains at credit of working account a balance of \$968,815.93 as per annexed statement.

From this sum the directors recommend the payment of a dividend of \$32 per share, equivalent to 32 per cent. on the paid-up capital of \$100 per share, and an addition to the reserve fund of \$150,000 raising the reserve to \$1,750,000. The balance remaining of \$498,815.93 they propose to carry forward to underwriting suspense-account to close the account for the year 1902.

1903.

The balance to the credit of this year's account amounted on the 30th June, 1903, to \$1,959,926.54 as per annexed statement.

DIRECTORS.

Since the last general meeting the Hon. C. S. Sharp, Mr. G. Balloch, Mr. G. H. Medhurst and the Hon. R. Shewan have resigned their seats on leaving the Colony, and Mr. A. G. Wood, Mr. H. W. Slade, Mr. E. S. Whealler and Mr. C. A. Tomes have joined the Board.

In accordance with clause 86 of the articles of association Mr. N. A. Siebs and Mr. A. G. Wood retire, but offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITORS.

Mr. J. H. Cox having resigned, the Board appointed Mr. A. R. Lowe to audit the present accounts.

Messrs. W. Hutton Potts and A. R. Lowe retire, but offer themselves for re-election.

A. G. WOOD, Chairman.

Hongkong, 17th September, 1903.

The accounts are as follows:—

WORKING ACCOUNT, 1902.

Dr. On 30th June, 1902.		\$	c.
To working account, balance on 30th June, 1902	1,672,433.78		
To net premium from 1st July to 31st December, 1902	1,461,891.83		
To interest	186,672.40		
	<u>\$3,320,497.01</u>		

Cr.		\$	c.
By agency commissions	64,214.73		
By head office, branches and agency charges	191,800.67		
By remuneration for half-year ending 31st December, 1902, to directors, committees and auditors	14,813.65		
By losses and claims paid	1,739,381.30		
By exchange	2,945.46		
By bonus on contributions account, 1902 (declared 18th April, 1903) 20 per cent.	338,526.27		
By balance	968,815.93		
	<u>\$3,320,497.01</u>		

WORKING ACCOUNT, 1903.

Dr. On 30th June, 1903.		\$	c.
To net premium from 1st January to 30th June, 1903	2,674,734.44		
To interest	93,895.48		
	<u>\$2,768,629.92</u>		

Cr.		\$	c.
By agency commissions	54,953.84		
By head office, branches and agency charges	214,691.11		
By remuneration for half-year ending 30th June, 1903, to directors, committees and auditors	17,415.15		
By losses and claims paid	522,470.06		
By exchange	1,173.20		
By balance	1,959,926.54		
	<u>\$2,768,629.92</u>		

BALANCE-SHEET.

On the 30th June, 1903.

Dr.	\$	c.
To capital 10,000 shares of \$250 each— \$2,500,000 upon which \$100 per share called and paid up	1,000,000.00	
To reserve fund	1,000,000.00	
To unclaimed bonus and dividend	54,974.14	
To exchange fluctuation account	438,533.45	
To investment fluctuation account	130,610.21	
To working account, 1902, balance	968,815.93	
To working account, 1903, balance	1,959,026.54	
To reinsurance fund, £63,370 8 8	784,145.20	
To underwriting suspense account, £34,044 13 6	408,056.10	
To sundry creditors	25,352.36	
	\$7,571,711.91	
Cr.	\$	c.
By cash on current account with the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	25,795.13	
By cash on deposit with banks in Hong- kong, Shanghai, Yokohama and Singapore	663,151.74	
By cash invested in mortgages, debentures and other securities in Hong- kong and Shanghai	2,151,376.16	
By amount invested in London, viz.:— Deposited in banks	£84,000 0 0	
Invested in sterling secu- rities	199,094 12 7	
Invested in rupee paper	8,580 0 0	
(Market value at date)	£291,674 12 7	
	3,500,985.53	
By amount invested in Melbourne, viz.:— Deposited in banks	£2,000 0 0	
Invested in sterling securities	15,976 0 0	
(Market value at date)	£17,976 0 0	
	215,457.61	
By amount at debit of branches and agencies	691,766.17	
By bills receivable	23,501.36	
By sundry debtors	297,541.22	
	\$7,570,713.93	

V.R.C. AQUATIC SPORTS.

The annual Aquatic Sports of the Victoria Recreation Club were commenced on the 15th inst. under very favourable auspices, the weather being lovely and some good sport being witnessed. The results were as follows:—

HALF-MILE CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE COLONY. Open to all comers. 1st prize presented by W. B. Dixon, Esq. 2nd prize presented.

1. N. H. Alves
2. J. Witchell

Time, 15 min. 31 2/5 secs.

BOYS' RACE (10 to 14 years of age). Two lengths (Handicap). Two Prizes. Post entries. Sons or Brothers of Members only admitted.

1. Geo. Witchell
2. H. Perkins

SWIM UNDER WATER. 1st prize presented by W. S. Bailey, Esq. 2nd prize presented. (The distance is calculated to the point where the water is first broken by any part of the body.)

1. M. Razack
2. H. S. Holmes

Distance, 117ft. 6in.

FOUR LENGTHS (Army, Navy, and Police). (Post entries). for Non Members. Two prizes presented.

Gr. A. Carmichael, R.A.

TWO LENGTHS (Handicap). 1st prize presented by Geo. Murray Bain, Esq. 2nd prize presented. 1st in each heat to swim in the final.

1st Heat.

1. A. J. Mackie ... Owes 2 sec.
2. F. W. White ... " 2 "

2nd Heat.

1. R. C. Witchell ... " 10 "
2. O. R. Chunyet ... " 7 "

3rd Heat.

1. R. Henderson ... " 7 "
2. J. A. S. Alves ... " 8 "

4th Heat.

1. R. Lapsley ... " 13 "
2. H. C. Sayer ... " 7 "

VETERANS' RACE. TWO LENGTHS (Handicap). Open to Competitors over 35 years of age. Post Entries. 1st prize presented by W. A. Crane, Esq. 2nd prize presented.

1. W. S. Bailey
2. T. Meek

Time, 42 4/5 secs.

7.—6.15 p.m.—TEAM RACE.

No. 1	No. 2
R. Lapsley	N. H. Alves
C. M. S. Alves	J. A. S. Alves
F. D. Bain	J. M. Roza-Pereira
C. F. Ozorio	O. R. Chunyet
L. E. Lammert	G. H. Rubie
A. J. Mackie	H. M. Bain
No. 3	No. 4
R. Witchell	A. V. Barros
E. R. Millar	A. Marti
A. J. V. Ribeiro	H. C. Sayer
P. M. Remedios	F. K. Tata
M. A. Razack	H. S. Holmes
H. C. Austin	S. R. Moore

Reserve—R. Henderson

Cwing to a foul by Lapsley's team, the race will require to be again competed.

Office-bearers were as follows:—

President, His Excellency Sir Henry A. Blake, G.C.M.G.; Chairman, Mr. Arthur Chapman; Committee, Mr. W. Armstrong, Mr. A. Rodger, Mr. W. G. Humphreys, Mr. Geo. A. Caldwell, Mr. W. S. Bailey, Mr. Thos. Meek, Mr. W. A. Crane, Mr. E. M. Hazeland, and Mr. E. W. Mitchell; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. R. H. B. Mitchell; Hon. Secretary, Mr. Frank W. White; Umpires, Mr. W. Armstrong, Mr. E. M. Hazeland and Mr. W. S. Bailey; Referee, Mr. E. W. Mitchell; Starters, Mr. A. Rodger and Mr. G. A. Caldwell; Handicappers, Mr. Thos. Meek, Mr. J. H. R. Hance, and Mr. F. W. White; Official Timekeepers, Mr. E. G. Jordan, and Mr. M. A. A. Souza.

The second day's sports of the Victoria Recreation Club were of a most successful character and favoured with fine weather. The first and most important event was the 200 Yards' Championship of the Colony, prize presented by H. F. the Governor. Near the end the race lay between C. Cooke and N. H. Alves; and Cooke had a meritorious win and got warmly applauded for his achievement. In the plunging competition F. K. Tata won. In the Running Header there was keen competition; there were numerous entrants from among the young blood of the Club, but the popular Hon. Secretary, Frank White, "surprised the natives" by winning first honours with three graceful dives devoid of fault. Frank Jorge ran the Hon. Secretary close, but spoiled his chances with his second essay which fell short in quality. C. Cooke also carried off the first prize in diving for plates.

Appended are the complete results of the day's races:—

CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE COLONY. 200 YARDS (SIX LENGTHS). Open to all comers. 1st prize presented by H.E. Sir Henry A. Blake, G.C.M.G. 2nd prize presented by W. Farmer, Esq.

1. C. Cooke
2. N. H. Alves

Time, 2 min. 35secs.

PLUNGING.—1st prize presented by Ho Tung, Esq. 2nd prize presented.

1. F. K. Tata, 56ft. 1 in.
2. A. Loureiro, 54ft. 4 in.
3. M. A. Razack, 54ft. 1 in.

BOYS' RACE (9 to 13 years of age). Two LENGTHS (Handicap). Post Entries. Two prizes presented. Sons or Brothers of Members only admitted.

1. G. Witchell
2. C. Bunje

RUNNING HEADER FROM SPRING-BOARD. Two prizes. 1st prize presented by A. Rodgers, Esq. 2nd prize presented.

1. F. W. White
2. F. Jorge

FOUR LENGTHS (Handicap). 1st prize presented by J. R. M. Smith, Esq. 2nd prize presented. (1st and 2nd in each heat to swim in the final.)

1st Heat

1. N. H. Alves, owes 22secs.
2. A. E. Alves, owes 20secs.

Time, 1 min. 30 1/5ths secs

2nd Heat.

1. R. C. Witchell, owes 17secs.
2. W. Schumacher, owes 10secs.

Time, 1 min. 41 2/5ths secs.

DIVING FOR PLATES. 1st prize presented by Geo. A. Caldwell, Esq. 2nd prize presented.

1. C. Cooke
2. F. K. Tata
3. E. R. Millar

HURDLE RACE. TWO LENGTHS (Handicap). 1st prize presented by Geo. A. Richards, Esq. 2nd prize presented. (1st and 2nd in each heat to swim in final)

1st Heat.

1. H. C. Sayer, owes 6secs.
2. A. Marti, owes 9secs.

2nd Heat.

1. C. Cooke, owes 10secs.
2. C. Humphreys, owes 7secs.

3rd Heat.

1. R. Lapsley, owes 12secs.
2. O. R. Chunyet, owes 6secs.

Mr. Frank White again looked after the comfort of visitors. The umpires were Mr. W. Armstrong, Mr. E. M. Hazeland, and Mr. W. S. Bailey; referee, Mr. E. W. Mitchell; starters, Mr. A. Rodger and Mr. G. A. Caldwell; handicappers, Mr. Thos. Meek, Mr. J. H. R. Hance, and Mr. F. W. White; official timekeepers, Mr. E. G. Jordan, and Mr. M. A. A. Souza.

Ladies' Day of the Victoria Recreation Club's Annual Aquatic Sports usually attracts a large number of residents. Naturally the ladies are responsible for a good deal of the attendance, but the contests on the third day are also more keenly fought. On the 17th inst. weather was just too good to make sitting in a confined space for a hour and a half comfortable, the sun shining full on the improvised grand stand. Shortly after five o'clock H. E. Sir Henry A. Blake, G.C.M.G., and Lady Blake arrived on the launch *Victoria*. We subjoin the results of the various contests:—

FINAL OF TWO LENGTHS (Handicap).

The following were the winners of the preliminary heats on the first day:—A. J. Mackie, R. C. Witchell, J. A. S. Alves, and R. Lapsley. Only the first three started, Lapsley reserving himself for the 100 Yards' Championship. Mackie held the lead at the end of the first length, with Alves and Witchell following in the order named. The latter gradually reduced the lead of Mackie, and won by about a body's length. Dead heat for second place. The time was 42 seconds. O. R. Chunyet won this event last year in 55 seconds.

HIGH DIVE. 1st prize presented by J. W. Osborne, Esq.; 2nd prize presented.

Schumacher and Jorge being credited with the same number of points after three attempts a final dive was ordered, which was won by Schumacher, who was also last year's winner.

FINAL OF FOUR LENGTHS (Handicap).

On the second day of the sports N. H. Alves, A. E. Alves, R. C. Witchell, and W. Schumacher qualified for the above, but the last named scratched. Witchell secured the lead halfway between the second and third length, and though hard pressed by A. E. Alves, finally won by a length from the latter. Time, 1 min. 35 secs.

BOYS' RACE (9 to 14 years of age). Two Lengths (Handicap). Two prizes. Post entries. Sons or Brothers of Members only admitted.

Last year's winner, H. Perkins, having gained the lead, kept it, and won easily from G. Witchell, in the creditable time of 1 min. 14 secs.

CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE CLUB (100 yards) 1st prize presented by Commodore C. G. Robinson, R. N. 2nd prize presented.

At the start Lapsley was first to get away, and at the turn led by three body-lengths. With only thirty yards to go, the race looked Lapsley's, but he was challenged by N. H. Alves and C. Cooke, who were swimming level. Amidst excitement Alves won from Cooke, with nothing to spare. Time, 1 min. 6-3/5 secs.

LADIES' NOMINATION. 1st prize presented by Messrs. Geo. Falconer and Co. 2nd prize presented. Conditions:—Each competitor will start in a tub in swimming costume and paddle one length; on reaching the other side, jump out, climb up to stage and there put on trousers, coat, and hat, provide himself with open umbrella, dive in, and swim back to starting post. Winner must finish with all clothes properly on and umbrella open.

Swam in heats, this race produced excellent fun. A. V. Barros won the first heat, A. E. Alves the second, and E. C. Witchell the third. In the final Alves touched the winning post before the others, Barros second and Witchell following.

WATER POLO. TEAMS OF SEVEN.

Blue.	White.
R. C. Witchell	A. Marti
A. V. Barros	C. Cooke
A. J. V. Ribeiro	F. D. Bain
A. Loureiro	C. M. S. Alves
L. A. Lammert	J. M. Rozz Pereira
R. Lapsley	F. K. Tata
G. H. Rubie	H. S. Holmes

Blues were first to become dangerous, Witchell having a good shot, which Tata cleared. The goalkeeper was again called on a minute later, and had scarcely got rid of the ball when Witchell sent it in again, afterwards trying to swim through with the leather; Tata, however, got hold in time. Barros also had some good shots, one of which grazed the bar. From a foul, Marti dribbled down and with a well-judged effort opened the scoring for the Whites, the only goal during the first half. On the restart, Barros had a likely chance, but was unlucky. Several opportunities of equalising fell to the Blues, and but for Tata's excellent goal-keeping a score would surely have resulted. A splendidly contested game finished with the score:—Whites, 1 goal; Blues, nil.

All round the sport was above the average of past years. A Team Race and the Hurdle final were omitted yesterday; the latter will be on Saturday's programme. On account of this the Championship of the meeting, on points, will not be settled until the off-day. The officials in charge were the same as on previous days. An excellent selection of music was supplied by the band of the 10th B.I.

HONGKONG FOOTBALL CLUB.

The report of the Hongkong Football Club for the season 1902-1903 has now been issued. From this it appears that the accounts show a balance of \$335.70 to the credit of the Club on the 31st August last. The following were the results of the matches played under Rugby and Association rules:—

Rugby—Lost 2; drawn 4; won 8. Points for 146; against 28. The Rugby A team, raised on account of a large number of players being available, played several matches.

Association—Lost 9; drawn 4; won 6. Goals for 31; against 34.

For specially useful play in the Rugby matches, caps were awarded to Messrs. Pierce, Jordan, Goldring, and Wolfe. For specially useful play in the Association matches, badges were awarded to Messrs. Cooke, R.N., Lemarchand, and Cooper. The Six-a-side Challenge Cup was won by Mr. Wolfe's team.

The Club team was defeated in the Shield competition by H.M.S. *Glory* by 3 goals to 2. Fourteen teams entered for the Shield competition, which was won by H.M.S. *Glory*. The matches were as closely contested and as interesting as those of previous years. The Shield fund shows a balance of \$85.54.

The Club now consists of 339 members. During the year, 47 new members were elected. The ninth annual dinner took place at the Hongkong Hotel on the 28th March last, and was attended by 521 members. The annual general meeting for the purpose of receiving the committee's report on the past season and for electing the committee and officers for the forthcoming season will be held in the Cricket Pavilion on Friday, September 25th next, at a quarter past five o'clock.

The half-yearly meeting of the Tanjong Pagar Dock Co. was held at Singapore on the 11th inst. The net amount for the half-year available for distribution, including the sum of \$74,859.89 brought forward from last account, is \$524,946.20. Out of this the directors recommend that \$150,000 be passed to general reserve fund, and that a dividend of \$6 per share be paid for the half-year, leaving a balance of \$152,946.20 to be carried forward to next account. The total amount of the debenture issue is \$1,615,500.

THE "TONKIN" FIRE.

ENORMOUS CLAIM FOR SALVAGE.

It is possible, reports the *Kobe Chronicle*, that the Kawasaki Dockyard Company will institute legal proceedings in connection with the recent fire on the M.M. steamer *Tonkin*, making a claim for salvage services rendered to the vessel in Kobe harbour and Mirame. We understand that the amount claimed by the Kawasaki Company for salvage is 170,000 yen.

On the 5th inst. a Judge of the Kobe Court, at the instance of the Kawasaki Dockyard Company, Kobe, inspected the extent of the damage done to the *Tonkin* by the recent fire, for the purpose of what is legally known as preservation of evidence. Messrs. Ota and Hirata, Counsel for the Kawasaki Dockyard Company, were also present. M. de Lucy-Fossarieu, the French Consul, Mr. A. Kirby, for the "Bureau Veritas," and Mr. J. Ellerton, representing Lloyds, with Counsel for the Messageries Maritimes, were already on board upon the arrival of Judge Ota. The Judge held the Court in the music saloon of the *Tonkin*, and served summonses for the appearance of the captain, the chief and second officers, and the chief and second engineers of the steamer, ordering them to attend at the Kobe Ku Saibansho on the 7th inst. Judge Ota next called upon Mr. Ellerton to sign an affirmation.

At this stage the French Consul asked Messrs. Ota and Hirata (Counsel for the Dock Company) for what purpose they had come on board the steamer.

Mr. Ota replied that they had come to inspect the extent of the damage done to the steamer by the fire, in compliance with an order issued by the Kobe Ku Saibansho, the Kawasaki Dockyard Company having applied to the Court for the preservation of evidence.

The French Consul replied that in such a case he should have been communicated with beforehand, but had heard nothing of the matter.

The Consul explained that he was on board to see what was going on, as he had no intimation. It was explained that notice had been sent the Consul, which M. de Lucy-Fossarieu said he had never received. The Consul said he had no intention of interrupting the proceedings, but diplomatic process must not be omitted by the Court. If legal process had been omitted, he would have to lodge a complaint.

Judge Ota then took the signatures of Messrs. Ellerton and Kirby to the affirmation, and gave the subject on which their expert evidence was required. The information wanted was (1) the market value of the *Tonkin* before the fire; (2) the portion of the steamer burnt; (3) the market value of the steamer after the fire; and (4) would the steamer have sunk had the after-part been burnt as was the fore-part, and was the *Tonkin* so damaged as to be rendered unserviceable? Judge Ota requested the surveyors to send in answers to these questions during the following week.

The Court, Counsel, and all interested then inspected the damage done. In the course of the inspection, M. Roux, agent of the Compagnie des Messageries Maritimes, said the fire that was extinguished by the Kawasaki Company was that near the engine-room. The fire in other parts burnt itself out and could not be extinguished.

While the hole that had been made by the Kawasaki Company in the hull of the steamer was being measured, the Captain of the *Tonkin* explained that no water had come in that way and that it was useless, being above the water-line.

Upon the conclusion of the inspection the Captain asked the Judge that Mr. Matsugata, President of the Kawasaki Company, be asked to attend on Monday at the Court. Judge Ota replied that this could not be done.

The morning's proceedings were then brought to a close.

Our Portuguese weekly contemporary *O Patriota*, of the 16th instant, reproduced a paragraph from the *Correio Nacional*, in which it was stated that it is rumoured that the present Governor of Macao, Colonel Arnaldo de Novoes, will succeed General Galhardo as Governor of Portuguese India.

A STEAMER CAPSIZED.

OVER A HUNDRED PERSONS DROWNED.

On the 12th inst. a serious catastrophe occurred in the Laichow River, about 250 miles S.W. of Hongkong and near the French settlement of Kwangchauwan, a steamer named the *On Hing*, about 250 tons register, being capsized and a large number of persons drowned, the number being variously estimated from 80 to 160. A strong northerly breeze prevailed at the time, heralding the approach of a typhoon, and a strong current in the same direction, as well as cargo stowed on the shade-deck, contributed to the capsizing of the ship. The disaster was witnessed by Captain A. E. Monger of the *Swift*, who in consequence of the strength of the breeze had weighed anchor and was turning round just at the moment the *On Hing* overturned. The cries of the terrified passengers were agonising, but Captain Monger states that he was unable to render assistance without jeopardising the safety of his own ship and the lives of a large number of passengers on board. He saw about twenty cargo-boats and sampans put off from the shore to the rescue, but as on this river there is a surface-current running in the opposite direction to the under-current, it is improbable that many lives were saved. As above stated, some reports place the loss as high as 160 souls, but Captain Monger is of opinion that this is an exaggeration and that 80 would be a more correct estimate.

MESSING ON COASTERS AT SHANGHAI.

The following report by the Medical Officer of Health at Shanghai on the subject of cholera is published in the Press:—The Council understand that preventative measures are being taken by the Companies concerned.

Shanghai, 9th September, 1903.

SIR,—In reply to the Council's enquiry regarding the incidence of cholera on board the shipping, I conferred with the Deputy Port Health Officer about a week ago on this subject and he was of opinion that the whole root of the evil lay in the extremely filthy state in which he found the ice-chests on board these vessels; he brought this matter to the notice of the Marine Superintendent, and at an inspection of the vessels alongside the wharf this morning we found that this was in course of being attended to, the chest having been recently cleaned out, and with one exception, foreign ice substituted for the filthy native article. In this connection I would suggest that a pattern of ice-chest in which the food could not be placed in contact with the ice, should be adopted on board all coasting vessels, as machine-made ice is not available in the outports.

As regards messing on these ships, the present system whereby the whole responsibility of provisioning the vessel is thrown on the captain who delegates it to a steward, is essentially wrong, since it offers every inducement to economise the food allowance in order to advance private interests. Last year a case of cholera having occurred on one line of steamers, representations were made to the owners, with the result that the above system was replaced by a scheme in which a resident steward was appointed for the sole purpose of inspecting the food supply of these vessels—this particular line of steamers appear to have escaped cholera this year, only one case having been reported on board these vessels. I think this experience affords an indication as to the course to be adopted by other shipping companies. I may add that there seems nothing at present to inculcate any special article of food, or any special source of supply, and the cases of cholera that have occurred in harbour have been fairly evenly distributed over all the moorings.

Lastly I would suggest that Public Health Notices on the same lines as ours, but specially adapted to the conditions that prevail on board ship, should be drafted out, printed in English and Chinese, and posted in prominent places (and more especially in the galleys), on board all coasting vessels.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

A. MOORE, Acting H. O.

J. O. P. BLAND, Esq.,
Secretary, Municipal Council.

JAPAN, RUSSIA, AND CHINA.

The correspondent at Peking, says the acceptance of these demands is a condition precedent to the evacuation of Manchuria, but their contents are kept secret.

Mr. Uchida, the Japanese Minister, in an interview with Prince Ching at Eho Park, on the 10th inst., made the strongest possible protest against the new Russian proposal.

Our Shanghai contemporary's Tokyo correspondent states that the Japanese Press strongly condemns the new Russian proposals, and expresses its surprise that such conditions should be formulated at Peking, while direct negotiation is pending in Russia. Japan considers that the proposals indicate the nominal substitution of a commercial for a military occupation, but create an armed camp in the middle of Manchuria along the Sungari. Should China make such a concession in the case of the Sungari, other Powers will be entitled to similar concessions on any Chinese river. The papers also object to the unreasonable delay in the evacuation of Manchuria, also to the proposed differential rate of duty on rail-borne goods, which conflicts with the new treaty tariff. They denounce the special privileges granted to Russian banks outside the Settlements; also the proposed telegraph monopoly. They consider that the sanitary control at Newchwang will enable Russia to practically close that port. Finally, they urge replacing diplomatic amenities by firm demands.

HONGKONG.

It is notified in the *Gazette* that Mr. M. Noma has resumed charge of the Japanese Consulate in Hongkong.

We have received from the Colonial Secretary's Office a copy of Appendices A to F, attached to Professor Simpson's report on plague in Hongkong.

A bad character who broke into a shop at 342, Des Vaux Road West with intent to commit burglary was sentenced at the Police Court on the 12th inst. to six months' imprisonment with hard labour. There were two previous convictions against him.

A number of forged lottery tickets for the last Macao Lottery were circulated in Hongkong and some people who purchased them were only made aware of the fraud when they went to lift their prize-money. About 50 of the forged tickets were seized in Kowloon.

Plague, though it has for many weeks now promised to disappear from the Colony, is not completely banished. In the return for the day ending at noon on the 12th inst. a fatal Chinese case was reported from Caine Road. These sporadic cases, long after the end of the epidemic, are very annoying, as they prevent Hongkong from obtaining a clean bill of health and continue the handicap on trade and shipping.

The only serious casualty reported locally in connection with the typhoon was the sinking of a junk in Capsuimun Pass on the 11th inst. Two junks were running into Chinwan Bay for shelter when they collided and one was sunk. No lives were lost, the people on board the foundering craft being rescued by those on the other vessel. The sunken junk as she lies in the channel has her stern showing above water and is a danger to launches and other craft using that part of the Pass.

The return of deaths in the Colony during July, just published in the *Gazette*, records 480 for the month, 22 in the European and foreign civil community and the rest among the Chinese. Plague caused 87 deaths (3 among the European and foreign community), chest affections 67, and malaria 12. The death-rates in the principal registration districts were:—European and foreign community, 26.2 per 1,000 per annum; Chinese, Victoria, land 19.8, harbour 9.6; Chinese, whole Colony 20.3, boat 10.2, land and boat 17.9; whole civil community, 18.0. It is to be noted that at Stanley, where the land and boat population together is 1,885, no death was recorded in July.

The addition of Mr. W. P. Lambert's name to the list of authorised architects in the Colony is notified in the *Gazette*.

The appointments of H.E. Sir Henry A. Blake, G.C.M.G., as Governor of Ceylon, and of Sir Matthew Nathan, K.C.M.G., K.E., as Governor of Hongkong, are notified in the *Gazette*.

The P. & O. s.s. *Sumatra* took home on the 18th from Hongkong 15 petty officers and 158 men who have been relieved after serving their commission on H.M.S.S. *Britomart* and *Bramble*.

Mr. Brewin is expected back in Hongkong on the 17th of next month. When he comes back Mr. C. McI. Messer, who is acting as Registrar-General, will, we understand, take up duty in the Land Office.

Yang Chu, the new Chinese Minister to Tokyo, is expected here shortly, as he is to come south to fetch his family from Canton before proceeding to Japan. H. E. is a Manchu by descent, though born in Canton.

On the 10th inst. a fire occurred in Mr. Basil Taylor's house at 2, Mountain View, through a beam in the chimney becoming ignited. The Fire Brigade were summoned, but the fire was extinguished before their arrival. The damage was trifling.

We understand that Inspector S. Gidley of the Sanitary Department who effected a gallant rescue of a young man from drowning at the Kowloon ferry wharf has received from H.E. the Governor a letter warmly commending his brave action.

Among the passengers to Shanghai on the *Franz Ferdinand* is an old resident there—Mrs. Volpicelli, the wife of the Italian Consul-General at Hongkong, who is now also Acting Consul for Austria-Hungary. Mrs. Volpicelli will remain in Shanghai only for a few days, as she is going on to Japan for the round trip.

At the Legislative Council meeting on the 17th inst. a despatch was laid on the table from Rt. Hon. J. Chamberlain approving of Sir Henry Blake's proposal to make provision in the 1904 Estimates for levelling and laying out the portion of Taipingshan which is still unbuilt upon as a public garden.

During the week ending on the 12th inst. the only cases of communicable disease notified in the Colony were 4 of plague, all Chinese in Victoria and all fatal. This brought the year's plague total up to:—1,407 cases (36 Europeans, 1,287 Chinese, 84 other Asiatics); 1,234 deaths (4 Europeans, 1,191 Chinese, 39 other Asiatics).

It will occasion no surprise to learn that the team which is to represent Hongkong against Shanghai in the coming cricket week at the northern port will not leave Hongkong as originally arranged on the 23rd by the *Empress of Japan*, but a fortnight later, viz. on the 7th October by the *Turtar*. This decision is obviously a wise one, as any team sent up next week must have been absolutely rough and short of practice, whereas, given a little dry weather, much may be done in the time between now and the 7th prox.

The police reported on the 12th inst., a Chinese carpenter of the name of Ng Ng, employed in the Naval Yard, was about to take in some clothes hanging from a bamboo on the verandah of the house in which he lived on the third floor of 253, Queen's Road East, when he overbalanced and fell to the ground, a distance of about 43 feet. The unfortunate man alighted on his head and was killed instantaneously. The deceased had been drinking.

Chan King-wa, the magistrate of Chumohow, Kwangsi, who on account of the undue severity of his rule was reported to have been sent to the frontier to redeem his honour by fighting the rebels, is now in Hongkong. As a matter of fact, Chan was never sent to the frontier. He was kept in Kwangsi under arrest, though not in prison, a guard of fifteen soldiers under two lieutenants being detailed to watch him. There, however, he astutely managed by some means to get rid of, and he escaped from Kwangsi and is now in this Colony.

H.M. gunboat *Bramble* came in on the 11th inst. from practice.

A sequel to the big price paid for the Opium Farm lease is that the price of opium has gone up from \$2 to \$2.50 per tael. A further rise in price is considered not unlikely.

There is word of a Quitting Club being started in Hongkong. There are many fine quitters in the Colony, who only require opportunity to show their proficiency at the game.

Among the arrivals from Manila by the *Rubi* on the 14th inst. was Mr. A. H. Savage Landor, the traveller and author, who goes on by the *Siberia* to the United States.

We learn that Sr. R. Marques died at Macao on the 9th inst. His brother was Dr. L. P. Marques, once Medical Officer to Victoria Gaol here. Sr. Marques had many friends in the Portuguese community of Hongkong.

A nuisance inspector went into a house in the Central district the other evening in the course of his duty, and it seems that he interrupted a gambling party, who scurried out of the house in all haste. One of the members of the party, in his endeavour to escape arrest, jumped over the verandah and was very seriously injured, so much so that he had to be removed to the hospital for treatment.

We learn that the company which is presently running the vegetable farm in Yip-pat Heung Valley up the Samchun river for the supply of the Hongkong market, is about to give up the ground at present leased as being too poor and at the same time too far removed from Hongkong. It is stated that the company intend to secure for farm purposes land in the neighbourhood of Yaumati and Wongneicheong.

We are pleased to be able to state that Mr. Herbert Price, of Messrs H. Price & Co., Queen's Road, is engaged to be married to Ethel, third daughter of Sir John Durston, K.C.B. The marriage will take place early next year, and Mr. and Mrs. Price may be expected in Hongkong about February or March. Mr. Price's fiancée is a sister of Mrs. Rook, wife of Mr. Rook, late of the Naval Yard.

The French stern-wheel steamer *Therese*, built at the Cosmopolitan Dock to the order of Messrs. E. C. Wilks & Co., for the Company Lyonnaise, Haiphong, ran a most successful trial on the 15th inst. in Kowloon Bay. The *Therese* is a light-draught vessel of the regular American type modified to suit the requirements of these waters. Dimensions 130 feet between perpendiculars, 147 over wheel and 25 feet beam, with a draught of water in light trim of 1 foot 4 inches. The engines are placed in the stern of the boat and the boiler well forward; they are of the most improved type for this class of vessel, and designed for a working pressure of 150 lbs. per square inch. The mean speed obtained, the engines running a steady 30 revolutions per minute, was 10½ knots on the measured distance of 1-1/10 knots between the rocks in Kowloon Bay, which was considered highly satisfactory. A number of gentlemen representing the principal shipping and engineering firms were present, this type of vessel being a new departure in the annals of local shipbuilding; and it was considered that the vessel would likely by a model on which economical boats of light draught, large carrying capacity, good speed, and great convenience in handling, might be built most suitable for the higher and shallower reaches of the West River. The dead-weight carrying capacity of the *Therese* is 110 tons in 3 feet 3 inches draught. The owners were represented by M. Braudela, Director of the Cie Lyonnaise, Haiphong, Monsieur Rean, Consul of France, Hongkong, and M. Roger, Engineer of the French Navy. Mr. J. Lambert had charge of the boat for the Dock Co., and Mr. W. C. Jack who prepared the specifications and superintended the construction, on behalf of E. C. Wilks & Co. The short time in which the vessel has been turned out was commended, the contract having been signed on the 6th June. The vessel will leave for Haiphong under her own steam during the week in charge of Captain Harvey.—Contributed.

MISCELLANEOUS.

At Newchwang on the 9th instant a team was formed from the ships in port to play a football match against H.M.S. *Espiegle*. The latter scored an easy victory by 5 goals to nil.

With reference to the Report of Dr. Moore, Acting Health Officer to the Shanghai Municipal Council, reproduced in our yesterday's issue, Messrs. Butterfield & Swire write as follows to the Shanghai papers:—We are authorised by that gentleman to state that he has ascertained from the Deputy Health Officer of the Port that his remarks as to the extremely filthy state in which he found the ice-chests had no reference to the vessels of our fleet, as on none of them had he found the state of things, to which he objected, existing. Dr. Moore further authorises us to state that the vessel on which they found native ice, on their inspection of 9th instant, was not one of our steamers.

A Wuchow despatch quoted by the *N.-C. Daily News* reports that in accordance with the consent of the Throne, asked for and obtained by him, Viceroy Shun has telegraphed to the Viceroy and Governors of Yunnan, Kweichow, Shansi, Shensi, and Honan, for certain of their best drilled and armed regiments to come down to Kwangsi with all haste to assist in restoring peace in the South. This makes thirteen provinces in all from whence Viceroy Shun has drawn troops to his standard, namely, Hunan, Hupeh, Kiangsu, Anhwei, Kiangsi, Chékian, Fokien, Kwangtung and the five provinces above named. It should also be remembered that all the regiments asked for by name are the best provided in every way and the best formed, physically, of all the forces of the empire, not even excepting the foreign-modelled troops of Viceroy Yuan Shikai.

Governor Taft has issued the following executive order at Manila:—"By authority of the President of the United States, and upon condition that they leave the Philippine Islands and never return, the unexecuted portion of the sentence in the cases of John J. Muth, John Foley, Samuel J. Lumkins, and Ralph H. Stonecker, convicted and sentenced by the Court of First Instance, Santa Cruz, La Laguna, in May, 1903, to four months' imprisonment, for robbery is remitted, to take effect upon the date of the sailing of the vessel carrying them away from these Islands, said sentence to be of full force and effect should they ever return." What we should like to know is, does the Philippines Government intend shipping John J. Muth, John Foley, Samuel J. Lumkins, and Ralph H. Stonecker to Hongkong; and do the local authorities intend to prevent the landing here of John J. Muth, etc? Manila papers say that the policy of the Government is to rid the islands of this undesirable element, and its attitude in this matter will be continued until the whole archipelago is cleansed of the beach-combing fraternity. But does the cleansing of the Philippines mean the pollution of Hongkong?

Some weeks ago, it will be remembered, a small craft named *Pearl* was seized by the Customs authorities at San Fernando de la Union for entering that port, which is not one of official entry. Orders were at once sent up to place a guard on the vessel and have her sent to Manila. This was over a fortnight ago and no more was heard of the *Pearl* until she put in an appearance yesterday, says the *Manila Times* of the 5th inst. It seems that the *Pearl* was caught in a typhoon after leaving Hongkong and had a terrible time with torn sails, broken yards and a scarcity of provisions. The captain had no alternative but to run for the nearest port and made San Fernando, where his little ship was seized. Obeying orders, he left San Fernando at once only to meet with fresh and even more serious trouble. For a whole fortnight he had been battling against head winds, and was carried right away down to where, to complete the chapter, he ran, or was carried, on to a coral-reef. In this dangerous position he remained for a time, when the vessel was re-floated and at last managed to reach Manila. All the captain's papers are in order and the manifest reads for Manila, not San Fernando. Consequently the collector of customs has ordered the vessel to be released.

The Shanghai Autumn Race Meeting will be held on the 3rd, 4th and 5th November next.

On the 6th inst. the U.S. transport *Sumner* which recently left Hongkong for Manila after undergoing extensive repairs at the local dock, crashed into the dock at Mariveles, doing about \$4,000 worth of damage.

Sir H. S. Wilkinson, Chief Justice of H.B.M.'s Supreme Court in China and Corea, is expected to return to Shanghai on the 26th inst., when Mr. H. F. King, the acting Assistant Judge, will return to his former post of Consul in Hangchow.

It is reported that Panglima Polim, the last of the prominent Achinese chiefs to hold out against the Dutch, has surrendered unconditionally to the Governor of Acheen. Nevertheless, it would not be surprising if, fifty years hence, there were still a war in Achin.

The intelligence that directs the action of the Peking Government, says the *N.-C. Daily News*, is faintly indicated by the fact that it has sent down an Article to be embodied in the American Commercial Treaty, by which the U. S. Consul-General here is bound to immediately suppress any newspaper publishing seditious or offensive matter, and to punish the writers thereof.

The *N.-C. Daily News* Tokyo correspondent says, under date 7th September:—Russian cruisers recently seized eleven Japanese schooners, with crews amounting to 278 men, in Kamshatka waters on a charge of poaching. They released 250 of the men at once, but detained 28 at Vladivostok for trial, which, owing to the direct influence of Admiral Alexieff, speedily ended in the acquittal of all of them.

The *Kobe Chronicle* says, with regard to the Manchurian question, that the present is perhaps the most favourable time for sensational reports which are being circulated. It is rumoured, for instance, that the number of operatives in the rifle-manufacture department of the Tokyo Military Arsenal was suddenly increased a few days ago, and that since then extra night-work has been going on uninterruptedly, the manufacture of rifles being pushed forward with great vigour.

On the 5th inst. there arrived at Singapore the s.s. *Koning Wilhelm I.*, the first steamer of the Netherland Steamship Company (Stoomvaart Maatschappij Nederland) to call at Singapore. The former run of this line, sailing from Amsterdam, has been Amsterdam, Genoa, Suez, den, Padang, and Batavia, but owing to the prospects of business it was decided to add Singapore to the company's ports of call, and in accordance with this resolve the *Koning Wilhelm I.* has now paid the first of what will in future be the fortnightly calls of this mail line. The Singapore agents are Messrs. Daendels.

In an account of a Church Missionary conference held at Changsha, the capital of Hunan, written for the monthly circular of the Hongkong Church Missionary Association, the Rev. L. Byrde writes:—"It was truly a wonderful experience that such a number of foreigners (30) could meet peacefully in the very capital, and that moreover during the celebration of the great yearly heathen fête. There is no question that, as Dr. John says, 'Hunan is open,' and not only open at its doors but open from end to end. We travelled from Kweilin right through the province, guarded, it is true, by soldiers, for since the Chenchow massacres the officials have been exceedingly careful, but nevertheless the country is open everywhere. A word about Changsha, 'The Long Sand,' so called from the long sand-flat in the river opposite the city. It is one of the finest cities in China. Several missionaries of wide experience said that they had not seen a finer. Its population is said to be four hundred thousand, though the last official 'census' gives about half that figure. The city lies roughly four square, on the east side of the Siang River, the whole area within the walls being built over. The streets are broader than usual and the shops imposing. It escaped the Taipings, from whose depredation many cities have not yet recovered. Signs of progress are apparent on all hands: I will only mention the extensive use of glass in the houses and the Wellington boots of the students at the newly-built military college."

The Escolta at Manila is to be paved with wooden blocks in place of the former cobble-stones.

The *Lyra* landed at Manila ten 6-inch modern coast defence guns for use on Corregidor Island.

A telegram to the *Times of Ceylon* dated Calcutta, August 28th, says:—The latest news from the Tibetan Commission is depressing. No progress whatever has been made with the negotiations. The Tibetan representatives at Khambjong even decline to acknowledge the treaty of 1890, on the ground that their Government was not consulted in its making. Other officials at Lhasa appear to protest against our presence in their country, and ask when we propose to clear out. A redeeming feature is that the Commissioners found valuable minerals, and specimens were sent to Simla, with the result that a skilled geologist has been despatched to join the commission.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

SHANGHAI.—Messrs. Welch, Lewis & Co. in their circular, dated 4th September, state with regard to BLACK TEAS that the market is at a standstill, the rapid rise in Exchange having put a stop to all business. Settlements since August 21st:—

	Per picul.
Ningchow	463 half-chests at Tls. 154-17
Oonan	1,741 " " 13-16 1/2
Oopack	981 " " 13-14 1/2

Total Settlements to date:—13,864 half-chests, against 29,700 half-chests same date last year. Arrivals to date:—32,109 half-chests, against 55,631 half-chests last year. Telegraphic advices from London give deliveries of Congou as follows:—Deliveries of Congou to August 31st, 1,775,000 lbs. Stock of Congou on August 31st, 9,450,000 lbs. GREEN TEAS.—Towards the end of last week it looked probable that we might have some easing off in prices of Fine and Finest Teas, but at the close the market has become stronger again, and there is no change to quote on last mail's quotations. Supplies from the Moyune districts promise to be a little short of last season's yield, but the extra supplies from the Tienkai and Fychow districts will more than make up for any deficiency from Moyune. Pingsuey.—The small business passing shows no change worth reporting. From the time devoted to picking and choosing here a line and there a line, there is evidently a desire to buy, but at the present prices and high Exchange business is very difficult. Most of the business reported has been hip off Teas on native account. Hysons.—The market has been bare of choicest qualities; a moderate business has been done in Finest and Choice qualities at fully previous rates. There are large stocks of medium to fine qualities in teamen's hands. Foong Mees and Sou Mees.—The small business reported has been almost entirely for shipment to Batoum. Tael prices are slightly lower, but this has been quite counter-balanced by the rise in Exchange.

Settlements since the 21st August:—

	Per picul.
Pingsuey	13,400 half-chests at Tls. 28 to 35
Moyune	5,321 " " 30 1/2 to 48
Tienkai	3,997 " " 27 1/2 to 40
Fychow	4,396 " " 23 to 33 1/2
Local Packed	3,769 " " 26 to 30

Total settlements since opening of market to date are 217,402 half-chests, and the stock 67,155 half-chests. The arrivals of Hyson and Yuong Hysons since the opening of the market has been 104,044 half-chests, settlements, 9,869 half-chests, and stock 11,175. Telegraphic advices from London give deliveries of Green Tea as follows:—Deliveries of Green Tea to August 31st, 390,000 lbs.; stock of Green Tea to August 31st, 1,800,000 lbs.

HANKOW, 9th September.—Business reported since the 2nd inst. is as follows:—Settlements, 599 half-chests; Shipments to Shanghai on native accounts, 1,288 half-chests, consisting of 262 half-chests Oonfaas at Tls. 12.00 to Tls. 25.00 per picul and 337 half-chests Sheangtams at Tls. 11.50 per picul. The entire business to date as compared with the corresponding period of last year is estimated as under:—

	1903.	1902.
	1-chts.	1-chts.
For London, America and European Continent..	198,828	145,474
For Russia	529,226	507,000
	728,054	652,474

Kobe, 1st September.—The export this season has so far kept slightly in advance of last year's figures. The quantity exported this season has been 8,234,131 lbs. as compared with 8,230,851 lbs. on the corresponding date last year. The demand recently has been almost entirely confined to low grades.

Yokohama, 31st August.—The third crop has proved disappointing, especially in the lower grades. A fair business has been done during the past fortnight, but there is no quotable change. The total settlements to date amount to 174,680 piculs, against 151,400 piculs at the corresponding date last year. The export from May 1st to 31st August has been as follows:—

Current Season. 1902-1903.			
To New York and East	6,802,211	6,132,243	
" Chicago and West ..	7,486,112	5,778,542	
" San Francisco and			
Pacific Coast ..	3,860,101	1,635,935	
" Canada ..	1,532,707	1,066,766	
" Europe, &c.	139,896	91,266	
lbs.	19,821,027	14,644,162	

SILK.

SHANGHAI.—Messrs. A. R. Burkill & Son's Circular of 10th September says:—The Home markets are firm. Gold Kiling is quoted in Lyons at Fcs. 35.50, and in London at 13. Raw Silks.—There is absolutely nothing doing in Teatlees. Yellow Silks continue in favour, and prices have advanced. Hand Filatures are neglected. Steam Filatures.—A few settlements are recorded but consist mainly of rejections. Waste Silks.—Nothing doing; the market remains steady. The total settlements for the season including forward contracts, is 19,500 bales; stock, 8,000 bales; and total arrivals, including steam filatures, 27,865 bales.

Yokohama, 31st August.—Since the 15th inst. the demand for Raw Silk for Europe and America alike has continued active, and prices register a further advance of 20 yen to 30 yen per picul. The consuming markets follow the advance more slowly and remain 20 yen to 40 yen apart. The total settlements from 1st July to 29th August (including 2,954 bales direct shipment, by Japanese) amount to 15,499 piculs, as compared with 13,419 piculs for the corresponding period last year. The unsold stock in Yokohama is 7,926 bales. In Waste Silks and Cocoons business has been fairly active at very high prices and a further advance in values is probable, the settlements during the fortnight are 3,000 piculs, and the present stock is estimated at 7,900 piculs.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG 18th September.—Large arrivals having been reported, the prices are declining. Shekloong, No. 1, White.....\$8.45 to \$8.50 per picul.
Do. " 2, White..... 6.60 to 6.65 "
Do. No. 1, Brown..... 6.15 to 6.20 "
Do. " 2, Brown..... 5.35 to 6.00 "
Swatow, No. 1, White..... 8.35 to 8.40 "
Do. " 1, White..... 7.55 to 7.60 "
Do. " 1, Brown..... 5.95 to 6.00 "
Do. " 2, Brown..... 5.75 to 5.80 "
Foochow Sugar Candy12.80 to 12.85 "
Shekloong "10.90 to 10.95 "

Kobe, 1st September.—There are no fresh transactions in Hongkong refined to report, although the market is active with good demand. Prices offered are below the requirements of the Hongkong Refineries. German Beet.—A quieter feeling, but prices maintained owing to small stocks. Osaka Refined.—Market strong and advancing, with good demand.

Yokohama, 31st August.—For Hongkong Refined the market is strong, though there are no transactions.

RICE.

HONGKONG, 18th September.—The downward tendency continues, market being weak.
Siam, Ordinary\$3.65 to \$3.70
 " Round, Good quality 5.20 to 5.25
 " Long 5.35 to 5.40
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2 3.85 to 3.90
 " Garden, " No. 1 4.35 to 4.40
 " White, 5.25 to 5.30
 " Fine Cargo 5.45 to 5.50

Kobe, 1st September.—The import market is dull, whilst in the export market prices have declined in consequence of the further improved outlook for the new crop.

OPIUM.

18th September.

Quotations are:—A lowance net. to 1 catty.
Malwa New\$1,000 to — per picul.
Malwa Old\$1,060 to — do.
Malwa Older\$1,090 to — do.
Malwa V. Old\$1,120 to — do.
Persian fine quality\$830 to — do.
Persian extra fine\$820 to — do.
Patna New\$11,075 to — per chest.
Patna Old\$1,110 to — do.
Benares New\$1,105 to — do.

COAL.

HONGKONG.—Shipments expected are 7,840 tons Welsh; 32,500 tons Japanese, and 3,000 tons Hongray and Kebao. Only the Cardiff coal is offering:—the market is dull. Quotations are:—

Cardiff\$20.00 to \$21.00 ex-ship nominal.
Australian 10.50 " sellers.
Yubari Lump 12.00 to 12.25 " nominal.
Milki Lump. 11.00 to 12.00 " "
Moji Lump. 6.50 to 10.00 " steady.

COTTON.

KIAOCHOU.—The Annual Report on the foreign trade of this port shows a most astonishing advance in the Import of Cotton goods. The following is the comparative table for last three years:—

DESCRIPTION OF GOODS.	1900	1901	1902
Grey Shirtings pieces	5,001	7,420	75,21
White " " " "	1,253	5,810	12,203
T-Cloths " " " "	2,875	9,650	32,438
" Japanese " " "	1,802	6,112	18,947
Drills, American " " "	1,273	5,071	23,731
Sheetings, American " " "	5,033	25,701	55,114
Cotton Fastings " " "	218	2,139	13,381
" Italians " " "	1,190	7,117	24,894
" Yarn, Indian " piculs	475	7,255	13,264
" " Japanese " " "	12,440	27,925	31,398
" " Shanghai " " "	1,771	7,333	4,245

Kobe, 1st September.—With regard to Imports, there is scarcely any forward transactions to report. A fair business has been done in "Spot," and prices show a slight improvement. Grey Shirtings.—Market continues in a dragging condition. Cotton Goods and Fancies.—Beyond a slight improvement in deliveries, business is neglected. Worsteds and Woolens.—Nothing doing; a very quiet fortnight. A fair amount of export business in yarns is reported, and quotations have advanced in sympathy with the rise in silver. The export for the fortnight has been 32,478 piculs, as compared with 15,763 for the same period last year.

Yokohama, 31st August.—Yarns.—Two or three small sales are reported, but no transactions indicative of any changes. Shirtings.—The market is lifeless. Fancy Cottons and Woolens.—A few forward sales have been made for special makes; and clearances are rather better, whilst the general tone of the market is distinctly healthier.

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

SHANGHAI (from Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co.'s Piece Goods Trade Report of 16th September).—In our last circular, when writing about the Imports into Tientsin, we inadvertently stated the years as 1902 and 1903, whereas they should have been 1902 and 1901. Business during the past week has been almost a blank as far as business in spot cargo is concerned, and we believe the principal transactions of the week have been confined to Fine White Shirtings and Fancies for arrival during next spring on private terms, and a line of American Sheetings Greenwood Dog Chop at Tls. 3.70 per piece. Clearances are admitted on all sides to be bad. We hear that there is great pressure for money among Chinese, and it is said that some native holders have had to realise some of their holdings at low rates for prompt payment, in order to satisfy the demand of the Banks. From Newchwang there is nothing of importance to note; but from Tientsin there is evidently a rather better feeling, owing, it is said, to the fact that clearances into consumption during this month alone are equal to those of last month. If true, this is a move in the right direction, but we fear the internal movements of the trade there have been so much upset that a considerable time must elapse before they can be adjusted.

Advices from Manchester report the market quiet but steady with little business doing. In the earlier part of the week there was a slight tendency for the market to weaken in sympathy with the price of Cotton which has dropped to 6.32d. This, no doubt, arises from the prospects of the Cotton crop being more favourable. Exports from England for the fortnight ending on 5th instant, amounted to nine million yards. Piece Goods.—The only sale we have heard of besides those mentioned above is 8.4lb. Red Jo's Grey Shirtings @ Tls. 2.67; but we believe this transaction took place last week. Prices at auction incline to be irregular but on the whole are slightly higher, rates being chiefly forced lower where larger quantities than usual were offered for sale. Cotton Yarn.—Indian.—Beyond the purchase of a few No. 10s, by Newchwang, business has again been confined to the River Ports, and the sales amount to the respectable total of 3,886 bales. Prices are steady except those for No. 10s., which have advanced five mace per bale. The particulars of the sales are as follows:—No. 10s, 1,000 bales:—Jeevray Baloo and Naranjee Tls. 69.25; Western Indian Pony Carriage Tls 70.25; Hope Mill Tls. 73.50/74.00; Imperial Mill Tls. 74.00; Jubilee (Mule) Tls. 74.00/74.25; Empress Mill Tls. 74.25; Standard Tls. 75.50; Textile Mill Tls. 75.75; Indo-China (Ring) Tls. 76.25/76.50; Currimbhoy (Ring) Tls. 76.00/77.50; and Kohinoor Mill "Kohinoor" Tls. 77.50. No. 12s, 549 bales: Jam Manufacturing Co., Tls. 74.00; Hope Mill Tls. 76.00; Lukhmidass Khimjee Tls. 77.00; Pabaney (Mill) Tls. 78.75; Morarjee Geculdass Tls. 79.50; Damoder Lukhmidass Tls. 79.75 and Currimbhoy (Mule) Tls. 80.00. No. 16s, 110 bales: Presidency Mill Tls. 81.75, and Jamshed (Mule) Compass Tls. 85.50. Tea Carrier Tls. 82.00, and Howard and Bullough Tls. 83.00, of Reverse. No. 20s, 2,236 bales: Peero Mill Tls. 83.25; Crown, Empress Mill, Howard and Bullough, Jubilee (Ring), Moon, Motilall Pitty, Pabaney (Ring); Queen Mills (Balloon); Sun Mills Limited, and Tea Carrier Tls. 84.00; Alliance (Peacock Ring) Tls. 85.00; Ripon (Ring) Tls. 87.50, and Ripon (Mule) Tls. 88.00. Japanese.—Sales during the week are only 1,000 bales, being rather less than the previous week, and prices are based at Tls. 84.00, @ Tls. 83.00 for 16s, and Tls. 90.00 @ Tls. 94.50 for 20s. Local.—The only sale we have heard of is 800 bales by Soey Chee Mill, which have been made at Tls. 84.00 for 12s; Tls. 86.00 for 14s; and Tls. 83.00 for 16s, packed, while re-sales of bundles have been made at Tls. 80.00 @ Tls. 63.75 for 12s; Tls. 81.00 @ Tls. 85.25 for 14s, and Tls. 83.25 @ Tls. 86.75 for 16s. Cotton.—We hear dealers are prepared to sell the New Crop Cotton at Tls. 21.50, and we believe that Cotton from the Ningpo New Crop has been sold at Tls. 18.00 @ Tls. 17.80, and that New Seed Cotton is now on offer at \$3.00 per picul.

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

HANKOW, 9th September.—The prices are quoted for the net shipping weight excluding cost of packing for export:—

	Per picul.
Cowhides, best selected	Tls 34.00
Do., seconds	29.50
Buffalo hides, best selected	
Do., do. 10/35 lbs.	23.00
Do., do. 35/60 "	
Goatskins, untanned, chiefly white colour, average 2 lbs., 50 p. c. short, 30 p. c. med. and 2 p. c. long hair	61.00
Buffalo Horns, average 3lbs. each	11.00
White China Grass, Wuchang and or Poochi	14.50
White China Grass, Sinshan and or Chayu	13.61
Green China Grass, Szechuen	12.50
White Vegetable Tallow, Kinchow	12.40
White Vegetable Tallow, Pingchew and or Macheng	12.30
Green Vegetable Tallow, Kiyu	12.50
Animal Tallow	12.00
Gallnuts, usual shape	22.00
Do., Plum do.	23.00
Feathers, Grey and or White Duck	19.50
Do., do. do. Wild Duck	24.00

Per P. & O. steamer *Chusan*, sailed on 12th September. For London:—32 bales waste silk, 15 bales raw silk, 16 cases silks, 5 half-chests tea 5 cases cassia, 5 bags broken cassia, 2 cases feathers, 8 packages sundries. For Milan:—20 bales raw silk. For London and/or Manchester:—10 bales waste silk. For Lyons:—70 bales raw silk. For Trieste:—50 bales waste silk. For Marseilles:—120 bales raw silk, 100 bales waste silk, 2 cases feathers.

Per steamer *Bayern*, sailed on 18th September. For Colombo:—500 bags beans. For Aden:—50 bags galangal, 20 coils rope. For Suez:—17 rolls matting. For Naples:—100 bales rattanshavings, 50 bales waste silk. For Genoa:—100 cases cassia, 100 bales raw silk, 65 boxes essential oil, 37 cases staraninseed, 4 bales waste silk. For Antwerp:—40 bales bamboo, 25 bales feathers, 20 half-chests tea, 15 cases chinaware, 5 cases cigars, 2 chests tea, 2 boxes tea. For Amsterdam:—18 packages tea. For Rotterdam:—10 boxes tea, 7 cases chinaware. For Bremen:—117 rolls matting, 12 cases preserves. For Bremen/Hamburg:—92 bales feathers, 19 cases chinaware, 2 cases gongs. For Hamburg:—40 cases preserves, 17 cases preserves, 16 cases tea paper, 6 cases copperware, 8 cases blackwoodware, 6 cases feathers, 4 bales cassia, 4 cases cassia, 2 cases curios, 2 cases silk, 2 bales feathers. For London:—1,000 boxes ginger, 6 rolls matting. For Copenhagen:—2 cases blackwoodware, 2 cases lacquerware. For Malmo:—1 case lacquerware.

Per steamer *Sumatra*, sailed on 18th September. For London:—6,808 boxes tea, 35 packages tea, 425 bales hemp, 35 bales waste silk, 60 bales canes, 81 cases chinaware, 3 cases woodware, 3 cases P. effects, 38 packages sundries. For Buenos Ayres:—75 packages tea. For Marseilles:—5 bales human hair.

SHARE REPORTS.

HONGKONG, 18th September, 1903.—The general condition of our market has undergone but little change during the past week. Banks, Docks, and Sugar have been in some demand, but requirements are now apparently satisfied, and we close with sellers at quotations.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have been booked at \$630 and \$632½, closing with sellers at the higher rate. London has advanced to £64. 10s. 0d. Nationals are somewhat firmer with buyers at \$28.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions are firm with buyers at \$500. At the forthcoming meeting of shareholders it is proposed to pay a dividend of \$32 per share for 1902 as against \$30 per share paid for 1901. China Traders have changed hands at \$61 and \$60, and close in request at the latter rate. Yangtze are wanted at \$135, and Cantons at \$18.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkong's continue quiet at \$325. China's after sales at \$86½ and \$87 have jumped to \$88 buyers.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao are easier with sales and further sellers at \$32½. Indo-Chinese have been booked at \$87½, \$86 and \$86½, but at the close are easier with probable sellers at \$87. Douglas's have been booked at \$37½ and more shares are obtainable at the rate. Shell Transports are procurable at £1. 2s. 6d. Star Ferries and China and Manilas are unchanged with sellers at quotations.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars after sales at \$96 to 97 are reported booked at \$100 closing with sellers at the latter rate, and rather less than equivalent rates forward for December delivery. Luzons continue on offer at \$10.

MINING.—Raub's have declined to \$8½ with sellers. Other stocks under this head are unchanged.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks advanced rapidly to \$210 during the earlier part of the week, with sales at that figure and (a small lot) at \$211, but have since eased off and are now procurable at \$207. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves continue in request at \$86. New Amoy Docks can be placed at \$37½. Farnham's are weaker, with sellers at Tls. 137½ in the North.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands after sales at \$154 are weaker with sellers at \$153. Kowloon Lands are on offer at \$35. West Points are quiet at \$50½. Humphreys Estates are firmer with buyers at \$104. Hongkong Hotels are steady at \$145 and Oriente Hotels at \$57.

COTTON MILLS.—Ewos have weakened to Tls. 35 sellers. Hongkong's can be placed at \$14½ ex the final dividend of 60 cents per share for the year ending 31st July, 1903, paid on the 15th instant.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Inland Cement's have sold and are in further request at \$22. Watsons have sold and are procurable at \$14½. Watkins have been booked at \$7½.

MEXICO.—Douglas Steamship Company Limited, ordinary yearly meeting on the 26th instant. Union Insurance Society of Canton, Limited, ordinary yearly meeting on the 8th October; transfer books closed from the 28th instant to 8th October inclusive.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		
Hongkong & Shanghai	\$125	\$632½, sellers
Natl. Bank of China		(London, £64. 10s.)
A. Shares	£8	\$28, buyers
B. Shares	£8	\$28, buyers
Four. Shares	£1	\$10
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	£1	\$5, sellers
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$4½, sellers
China-Borneo Co., Ltd.	\$12	\$9½, sellers
China Light & Power Co., Ltd.	\$20	\$3½, sellers
China Prov. L. & M.	\$10	\$9½, sellers
China Sugar	\$100	\$100, sales & buyers
Cigar Companies—		
Alhambra Limited	\$500	210, buyers
Philippine Tobacco Trust Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$18, sellers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 100	Tls. 37
International	Tls. 75	Tls. 30, sellers
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 30, buyers
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 100
Hongkong	\$100	\$14, ex div., buy.
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$12
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$47½
Green Island Cement	\$10	\$22, buyers
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$40
Hongkong & C. Gas	\$10	\$140, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$5	\$12 6d
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$320, sellers
Hk. Steam Water Boat Co., Ltd.	\$10	\$15, buyers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$145
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$250, sellers
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$86, buyers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$145, sellers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$207, sellers
Insurance—		
Canton	\$50	\$181, buyers
China Fire	\$60	\$88, buyers
China Traders	\$25	\$60, buyers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$325, sellers
North China	\$25	Tls. 225, sellers
Straits	\$20	\$1, buyers
Union	\$100	\$500, buyers
Yangtze	\$60	\$135, buyers
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.	\$100	\$153, sellers
Humphreys Estate	\$10	\$104, buyers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$35, sellers
West Point Building	\$50	\$50½
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$10, sellers
Manila Invest. Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$15, buyers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$6 10, sellers
Jelebu	\$5	50, cent, sellers
Punjom	\$11	\$1.65, buyers
Do. Preference	\$1	30 cents, buyers
Raub's	18. 10	\$84, sellers
New Amoy Dock	\$6½	\$37½, buyers
Oriente Hotel, Manila	\$50	\$57
Powell, Ltd.	\$10	\$9, sellers
Robinson Piano Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$50
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila	\$50	\$19, sellers
Douglas Steamship	\$55	\$14, sellers
H., Canton and M.	\$50	\$37½
Indo-China S. N.	\$15	\$32½, sellers
Shell Transport and Trading Co.	\$10	\$1. 2s. 6d. sellers
Star Ferry	\$10	\$26½, sellers
S. C. F. Boyd & Co., Ltd.	\$5	\$16½, sellers
Shanghai and Hongkong Dyeing and Cleaning Co., Ltd.	Tls. 100	Tls. 137, sellers
Tebrau Planting Co.	\$50	\$50, nominal
United Abestos	\$5	nominal
Do.	\$4	\$0.10
Universal Trading Co., Ltd.	\$10	\$200
Watkins	\$5	\$23, buyers
Watkins Ltd.	\$10	\$8, sellers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$14½, sellers

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

SHANGHAI (from Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Share Report of September 11th).—Although a number of stocks have been handled during the past week, only a limited business has been put through. A little uneasiness is felt regarding the coming settlement, which is a pretty large one owing to the continued tightness of money. Demand rate on London to-day is quoted at 2s. 6d. 13/16. Banks.—H. and S. Bank.—The market rate for these is steady at \$630, the latest London quotation is \$624. Marine Insurance.—No business is reported. Fire Insurance.—Transactions in China Fires to Hongkong are quoted at 86½ and 86 at Exchange 72-3/8. Shipping.—Indos have firm quotations, transactions are quoted at Tls. 60 for cash and the end of the month, 61 for October, 59½, 60, 61½ and 62 for December. There is a good demand for cash shares. Shanghai Tug and Lighter Co. shares are enquired for, but only Tls. 55 has been offered; this price has failed to bring out shares. Docks and Wharves.—Farnham, Boyds: the market opened on the 4th inst. with sales for cash at Tls. 130 and 135, 147½ and 145 December. On the 5th cash shares again fetched 140. On the 7th cash at 140 and 147½ December. On the 8th at 140 cash and 145 December. On the 9th at 140, 137 and 136½ cash, and 142½ December. On the 11th at 136 cash and Settlement 2nd 142½ December. The market closes quiet at quotations. Shanghai and Hongkong Wharves: a considerable business has been done in these. The market opened in the beginning of this week under review at Tls. 217½, rising to Tls. 220 for the Settlement. The market closes with buyers 220 cash. Sugars.—No business reported. Mining.—The only transaction in stocks under this heading is in Weihaiwei Gold: at 20 cash. Lands.—Shanghai Lands have been placed at Tls. 100. Industrial.—No business reported in Cotton Stocks. China Flours have changed hands at Tls. 65 cum new issue. Shanghai Gas at Tls. 109, and Green Islands, to Hongkong, at \$21. A small lot of Waterworks is obtainable at Tls. 425. Langkats: the market opened on the 4th with sales at Tls. 277½ for the settlement. On the 5th at 275 for the same date. On the 7th at 285 cash and settlement, and 290 December. On the 8th at 280 cash, 289 and 287½ December. On the 9th at 275, 277½ and 270 cash and 270 settlement, with sales at 28½, 280 and 277½ December. On the 10th at 270 and 272½ settlement, 275 October, and 280 December. The market closes firmer and shares could be placed at 272½ for cash. Sumatras have been placed at Tls. 54 and 53. Stores and Hotels.—There has been a little movement in Astor House Hotels which have changed hands at \$10 and \$30½, and \$31½ September. Hall & Holtz have been placed at \$34, Centrals at \$28½, to Hongkong. Miscellaneous.—Telephones have been placed at Tls. 68. Debentures.—Municipal Debentures 1895-6 5 per cent. have been placed at Tls. 50.

EXCHANGE.

SATURDAY, 19th September.

ON LONDON.—

Telegraphic Transfer	1.9½
Bank Bills, on demand	1.9½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1.10
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1.10½
Credita, at 4 months' sight	1.10½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1.10½

ON PARIS.—

Bank Bills, on demand	230
Credits, at 4 months' sight	233½

ON GERMANY.—

On demand	186½
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ON NEW YORK.—

Bank Bills, on demand	44½
Credits, 60 days' sight	45½

ON BOMBAY.—

Telegraphic Transfer	136
Bank, on demand	136½

ON CALCUTTA.—

Telegraphic Transfer	136
Bank, on demand	136½

ON SHANGHAI.—

Bank, at sight	72½
Private, 30 days' sight	73½

ON YOKOHAMA.—

On demand	88½
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ON MANILA.—

On demand	Nominal
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ON SINGAPORE.—

On demand	Nominal
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ON BATAVIA.—

On demand	110
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ON HAIIPHONG.—

On demand	1 p.c. pm.
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ON SAIGON.—

On demand	1 p.c. pm.
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BANGKOK.—

On demand	62½
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FOREIGN, Bank's Buying Rate.

100 fine, per tael	\$11.20
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100 LEAF, 100 fine, per tael.

	\$59.50
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100 SILVER, per oz.

	26½
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VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

FOR ANTWERP.—*Agamemnon*, *Glaucus*, *Sumatra*, *Pak Ling*, *Inaba Maru*.
 FOR LONDON.—*Sumatra*, *Ballaarat*, *Kintuck*, *Pak Ling*, *Glaucus*, *Agamemnon*, *Kamakura Maru*, *Inaba Maru*.
 FOR LIVERPOOL.—*Pingsuey*, *Jason*.
 FOR MARSEILLES.—*Agamemnon*, *Glaucus*, *Kintuck*, *Pak Ling*, *Kamakura Maru*, *Inaba Maru*.
 FOR BREMEN.—*Bayern*, *Konigsberg*.
 FOR HAVRE AND HAMBURG.—*Andalusia*, *Abyssinia*, *Brigavia*, *Saxonia*.
 FOR TRIESTE.—*Persia*.
 FOR NEW YORK.—*Nordkyn*, *Braemar*.
 FOR PORTLAND (OR.).—*Indrasamha*.
 FOR VICTORIA, B.C.—*Tosa Maru*, *Calchas*, *Kaga Maru*, *Tucoma*.
 FOR VANCOUVER.—*Empress of Japan*, *Tartar*.
 FOR AUSTRALIAN PORTS.—*Chingtu*, *Eastern*.
 FOR BOMBAY VIA SINGAPORE AND PENANG.—*Ischia*.
 FOR BOMBAY, VIA SINGAPORE AND COLOMBO.—*Idzumi Maru*.
 FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG AND CALCUTTA.—*Namsang*.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

September—ARRIVALS.

10, Tritos, German str., from Manila.
 11, Bramble, British gunboat, from practice.
 11, husin, British str., from Shanghai.
 11, Ellen Rickmers, Ger. str., from Swatow.
 11, Konigsberg, German str., from Yokohama.
 11, Kwangtah, Chinese str., from Canton.
 11, Rosetta Maru, Japanese str., from Manila.
 11, Simla, British str., from London.
 12, Amara, British str., from Cardiff.
 12, Haimun, British str., from Swatow.
 12, Kaifong, British str., from Manila.
 12, Kinshiu Maru, Jap. str., from Bombay.
 12, Lennox, British str., from Liverpool.
 12, Suisang, British str., from Kraksaan.
 12, Taichow, German str., from Bangkok.
 13, Chiyeun, Chinese str., from Canton.
 13, Doris, Norwegian str., from Moji.
 13, Elita Nossack, German str., from Canton.
 13, Esang, British str., from Chefoo.
 13, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
 13, Kashing, British str., from Shanghai.
 13, Maidzuru Maru, Jap. str., from Anping.
 13, Phranang, German str., from Bangkok.
 13, Quarta, German str., from Iloilo.
 13, Taksang, British str., from Shanghai.
 13, Thales, British str., from Coast Ports.
 13, Waihora, Norwegian str., from Straits.
 14, Bayen, German str., from Shanghai.
 14, Clara Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Hoihow.
 14, Freiburg, German str., from Hamburg.
 14, Glenalloch, British str., from Straits.
 14, Hue, French str., from Haiphong.
 14, Kongsichang, German str., from Bangkok.
 14, Loongmoon, German str., from Shanghai.
 14, Loongsang, British str., from Manila.
 14, Luzon, Amr. ship, from Iloilo.
 14, Namsang, British str., from Calcutta.
 14, Nanchang, British str., from Chefoo.
 14, Orono, British str., from Antwerp.
 14, Rubi, British str., from Manila.
 14, Triumph, German str., from Quinhon.
 14, Victoria, Swedish str., from Sourabaya.
 14, Yiksang, British str., from Hankow.
 15, Daigi Maru, Japanese str., from Tamsui.
 15, Dott, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.
 15, Else, German str., from Hongay.
 15, Frithjof, Norwegian str., from Manila.
 15, Jason, British str., from Liverpool.
 15, Java, British str., from London.
 15, Kintuck, British str., from Foochow.
 15, Progress, German str., from Hoihow.
 15, Siam, British str., from Langkut.
 15, Trogas, British str., from Batoum.
 16, Foochow, British str., from Canton.
 16, F. Ferdinand, Austrian str., from Trieste.
 16, Glenogle, British str., from London.
 16, Hailan, French str., from Pakhoi.
 16, Hailong, British str., from Swatow.
 16, Hupeh, British str., from Shanghai.
 16, Loosok, German str., from Bangkok.
 16, Michael Jensen, Ger. str., from Pakhoi.
 16, Ningpo, British str., from Chinkiang.
 16, Oakley, British str., from Moji.
 16, Prometheus, Norw. str., from Swatow.
 16, Seydlitz, German str., from Bremen.
 16, Sumatra, British str., from Yokohama.
 17, Ariake Maru, Jap. str., from K'notzu.
 17, Dunar, British str., from Westport.
 17, Esang, British str., from Canton.

17, Haimun, British str., from Swatow.
 17, Kowloon, German str., from Canton.
 17, Meefoo, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 17, China, German str., from Manila.
 17, Persia, Austrian str., from Kobe.
 17, Prosper, Norwegian str., from Saigon.
 17, Rohilla Maru, Japanese str., from Manila.
 17, Taiwan, British str., from Chefoo.
 17, Tyr, Norwegian str., from Hongay.
 18, Atholl, British str., from San Francisco.
 18, Hailan, British str., from Coast Ports.
 18, Kama'ura Maru, Jap. str., from Japan.
 18, Prima, Norwegian str., from Moji.
 18, Thea, German str., from Chefoo.
 18, Hikosan Maru, Jap. str., from K'notzu.
 18, Solveig, Norwegian str., from Samarang.
 19, Anping Maru, Jap. str., from Coast Ports.
 19, Andree Rickmers, Ger. str., from Bangkok.
 19, Bygdo, Norwegian str., from Hongay.
 19, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
 19, Hinsang, British str., from Java.
 19, Hoihao, French str., from Pakhoi.
 19, Petchaburi, German str., from Bangkok.
 19, Sungkiang, British str., from Manila.
 19, Tartar, British str., from Vancouver.

September—DEPARTURES.

11, Bygdo, Norwegian str., for Hong y.
 11, Daijin Maru, Japanese str., for Tamsui.
 11, Haiching, British str., for Coast Ports.
 11, Ischia, Italian str., for Bombay.
 11, Kumano Maru, Jap. str., for Melbourne.
 11, Madel. Rickmers, Ger. str., for Bangkok.
 11, Taishan, British str., for Swatow.
 11, Taishun, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 11, Wakasa Maru, Jap. str., for Yokohama.
 11, Wongkoi, German str., for Bangkok.
 11, Ynensang, British str., for Manila.
 12, Canton, British str., for Shanghai.
 12, Chusan, British str., for Europe.
 12, Loksang, British str., for Chinkiang.
 12, Lyeemoon, German str., for Shanghai.
 12, Simla, British str., for Shanghai.
 12, 'ingsang, British str., for Shanghai.
 12, Zafiro, British str., for Manila.
 13, Kalgan, British str., for Shanghai.
 13, Konigsberg, German str., for Hamburg.
 13, Kurdistan, British str., for Yokohama.
 13, Kwongsang, British str., for Shanghai.
 13, Szachuen, British str., for Newchwang.
 14, Elita Nossack, German str., for Hongay.
 14, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
 14, Taksang, British str., for Canton.
 14, Tailer, German str., for Swatow.
 14, Tritos, German str., for Saigon.
 14, An Pho, British str., for Swatow.
 15, Boreo, German str., for Sandakan.
 15, Braemar, British str., for New York.
 15, Catherine Apar, British str., for Calcutta.
 15, Chinkiang, British str., for Shanghai.
 15, Clara Jensen, German str., for Hongay.
 15, Else, German str., for Swatow.
 15, Glenalloch, British str., for Amoy.
 15, Hol-tein, German str., for Hoihow.
 15, Indrasamha, British str., for Portland.
 15, Kinshiu Maru, Jap. str., for Yokohama.
 15, Kwangtah, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 15, Loongmoon, German str., for Canton.
 15, Machew, German str., for Bangkok.
 15, Orono, British str., for Port Arthur.
 15, Thales, British str., for Coast Ports.
 15, Triumph, German str., for Canton.
 15, Woosung, British str., for Shanghai.
 16, Bayeru, German str., for Europe.
 16, C. Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Haiphong.
 16, Chi gtu, British str., for Yokohama.
 16, Chiyeun, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 16, Choyssang, British str., for Shanghai.
 16, Devawongse, German str., for Bangkok.
 16, Doris, Norwegian str., for Saigon.
 16, Hue, French str., for Haiphong.
 16, Kaifong, British str., for Manila.
 16, Kintuck, British str., for London.
 16, Maidzuru Maru, Jap. str., for Tamsui.
 16, Siberia, Amr. str., for San Francisco.
 16, Suisang, British str., for Yokohama.
 16, Waihora, Norwegian str., for Amoy.
 16, Yiksang, British str., for Canton.
 17, Daigi Maru, Japanese str., for Tamsui.
 17, Ellen Rickmers, German str., for Swatow.
 17, Hailong, British str., for Tamsui.
 17, Hongkong, French str., for Haiphong.
 17, Jason, British str., for Shanghai.
 17, Meefoo, Chinese str., for Canton.
 17, Ningpo, British str., for Canton.
 17, P. C. C. Kiao, German str., for Bangkok.
 17, Seydlitz, German str., for Shanghai.
 17, Siam, British str., for Foochow.

18, Ariake Maru, Japanese str., for Moji.
 18, Esang, British str., for Tientsin.
 18, Foochow, British str., for Shanghai.
 18, F. Ferdinand, Austrian str., for Shanghai.
 18, Freiburg, German str., for Yokohama.
 18, Frithjof, Norwegian str., for Shanghai.
 18, Glenogle, British str., for Amoy.
 18, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
 18, Java, British str., for Yokohama.
 18, Kowloon, German str., for Chinkiang.
 18, Lennox, British str., for Shanghai.
 18, Leviathan, British cruiser, for Japan.
 18, Loongsang, British str., for Manila.
 18, Phranang, German str., for Bangkok.
 18, Prometheus, Norw. str., for Shanghai.
 18, Progress, German str., for Swatow.
 18, Rosetta Maru, Japanese str., for Manila.
 18, Sumatra, British str., for London.
 18, Taichow, German str., for Bangkok.
 18, Taiwan, British str., for Canton.
 18, Thea, German str., for Canton.
 18, Tiger, German gunboat, for Canton.
 19, Hailan, French str., for Hoihow.
 19, H. psang, British str., for Singapore.
 19, Kamakura Maru, Jap. str., for London.
 19, Quarta, German str., for Chefoo.
 19, Rubi, British str., for Manila.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Simla*, for Hongkong, from London, Mr. J. H. Penfold; from Marseilles, Mr. H. A. Denny; Lient. Branson; from Penang, Miss Ida Ellis and Mr. H. E. Rigge; from Singapore, Mrs. S. Fraser; for Shanghai, from London, Rev. and Mrs. W. H. Murray, Miss and Mr. Murray and five children, Messrs. R. Davidson, A. Anderson and A. S. Lawrence; from Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Eves; from Bombay, Mrs. Cooper; for Yokohama, from Marseilles, Mr. J. S. Plant.

Per *Bayern*, for Hongkong, from Yokohama, Mrs. Schellhaas, Missionar J. Genache; from Shanghai, Mrs. F. E. Wolff, Mrs. Bertha, Mr. Roberts and Mrs. Genn, Misses C. M. Noronha, and Bow-ll, Captain Maximoff, Messrs. G. Frisland, W. R. Reber, A. M. Gutierrez, F. Bowet, C. Clarkson and Hugo Glaser.

Per *Seydlitz*, for Hongkong, from Southampton, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Beatty, Messrs. A. N. Kemp, H. Strike, B. J. D. Sayle, E. Wohlfahrt, and J. V. Cotton; from Genoa, Capt. H. Wendt and Mr. J. Seiboth; from Colombo, Major von Straubenzie; from Penang, Mrs. Emanuel and family, Messrs. A. R. J. Douglas, P. Delf, and E. Moller; from Singapore, Messrs. D. L. R. Reel, M. Marwede, and J. C. Grew.

DEPARTED.

Per *Siberia*, for Shanghai, Majors A. B. Hamilton and Trefusis, Miss J. E. Trainham, Messrs. Ellis Kadoorie, Lipkenov, H. B. Fikke, F. F. Llagosdera and F. I. Woodbridge; for Yokohama, Messrs. P. B. Castle and E. C. Ray; for Honolulu, Mr. and Mrs. L. Asen and Mr. L. K. McGrew; for San Francisco, &c., H. E. Major-General Sir Wm. and Lady Gascoigne, Mrs. F. E. Roth and infant, Mrs. D. H. Skidmore, Mrs. C. M. Cotterman, Mr. Leo Cotterman, Miss Nana Cotterman, Mrs. W. J. Edmonds and infant, Miss Ida Ellis, Capt. O. F. Fisher, U.S.N., Messrs. D. Hurley, S. S. Melligan, F. W. Van Buskirk, H. S. Landor, J. G. Kennedy, and Chas. A. Mize.

Per *Bayern*, from Hongkong, for Hamburg, Mrs. A. P. Ager, Mrs. Alice Brunner, Mrs. Roberts, Dr. H. J. Groot and family, Marine-Ingenieur Tietge, Sub-Lieut. von Luck, Messrs. Waldmar Anderson, J. Kerthals Altes, Brasseur, W. Buurmann van Vreedon, P. Clafo, Fred. Griffon, F. Hirose, J. J. Keegan, G. Miller, G. Miidorp, Muller and son, Muir, H. J. Rosencrantz, Sargent, James F. Tewesley, W. Uderup, Karl Verdrick, and Edward Wheen.

Per *Seydlitz*, from Hongkong, for Shanghai, Capt. Maximoff and Wendt, Messrs. F. Reiber, E. R. Palmer, P. Chang, de La Clisse, A. A. Bareis, F. Knowles, W. H. Saunders, P. Frapa, E. Schmidt, and Misses Almeida; for Kobe, Messrs. R. Basa, F. Robles and M. Perez; for Yokohama, Mr. Roberts.

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